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Conto

The Victoria History of the
Counties of England

EDITED BY WILLIAM PAGE, F.S.A.

A HISTORY OF
LANCASHIRE

VOLUME V

THE
VICTORIA HISTORY
OF THE COUNTIES
OF ENGLAND

LANCASHIRE



LONDON

CONSTABLE AND COMPANY LIMITED

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INSCRIBED
TO THE MEMORY OF
HER LATE MAJESTY
QUEEN VICTORIA
WHO GRACIOUSLY GAVE
THE TITLE TO AND
ACCEPTED THE
DEDICATION OF
THIS HISTORY



*A View of Winona's Moon near Anishnabe
engraved by, John & Christopher S. Muller. 1771.*

THE
VICTORIA HISTORY
OF THE COUNTY OF
LANCASTER

EDITED BY
WILLIAM FARRER, D.LITT., AND J. BROWNBILL, M.A.

VOLUME FIVE



LONDON

CONSTABLE AND COMPANY LIMITED

1911

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EDITORIAL NOTE

IN addition to those whose help has been acknowledged in previous volumes, the Editors desire to record their obligations to the following:—
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A HISTORY OF
LANCASHIRE

TOPOGRAPHY

THE HUNDRED OF SALFORD

(Continuation)

DEANE

RUMWORTH
HORWICH
HEATON
HALLIWELL

WESTHOUGHTON
HULTON, LITTLE
HULTON, MIDDLE

HULTON, OVER
FARNWORTH
KEARSLEY

This parish, originally the northern half of the parish of Eccles, takes its name from the dean or narrow wooded valley, on the edge of which the church stands.¹ A little brook runs down the valley northward to the Croal. The whole was held of the lord of Manchester, in part directly and in part under the mesne fee of Barton.² The district measures about 8 miles from north-west to south-east, and has a total area of 20,102 acres. The geological formation consists of the carboniferous rocks, the Coal Measures in the southern and central parts, the Gannister Beds and Millstone Grit in the northern—that is, in Heaton, Horwich and Halliwell. The church stands as near as may be to the centre of its irregularly-shaped district.

Of recent formation the parish has but little record beyond that of industrial progress, being largely influenced by Bolton, within which a large portion of it is now included.

The following is the present apportionment of the agricultural land: Arable land, 2,375 acres; permanent grass, 10,798; woods and plantations, 354. Details are given as follows:—

	Arable Acres	Grass Acres	Woods, &c. Acres
Deane	2,071	4,093	190
Deane	10	884	—
Horwich	46	1,811	5
Smithills	7	1,104	144
Heaton	2	1,199	15
Farnworth	4	613	—
Kearsley	235	284	—

For assessment purposes it was divided into four quarters—Rumworth, Farnworth, and Kearsley; Heaton, Horwich, and Halliwell; Westhoughton; the three Hultons. Each quarter contributed £1 14s. 1½d.

to the county lay of 1624, when the hundred had to raise £100.³ To the fifteenth Rumworth, together with Lostock in Bolton, paid 14s.; Heaton with Halliwell, 13s.; the three Hultons, 10s.; Westhoughton, 15s. 1d.; Horwich was not reckoned, and Farnworth and Kearsley were included with Barton-on-Irwell.⁴

The church of *ST. MARY* is picturesquely situated on high ground above a small stream that flows past it on the west, and consists of a chancel 28 ft. long by 19 ft. 6 in. wide, nave 71 ft. 6 in. by 20 ft. 9 in., north aisle 13 ft. wide, with organ chamber at the east and vestry at the west end, south aisle 15 ft. wide, south porch and west tower 9 ft. square; these measurements being all internal. With the exception of the tower the building belongs to different periods of the 15th and to the beginning of the 16th centuries, with modern additions. The tower is of 14th-century date, and probably belongs to an older church which the 15th-century building replaced.

The church is built of rough wall-stones, and has battlemented parapets to chancel, nave, and aisles, with three crocketed pinnacles on the east end, and leaded roofs. The details are poor, the windows all being late in style, with rounded uncusped heads to the lights, the clearstory consisting of an almost continuous line of square-headed three-light windows.

The church appears to have been originally a small 14th-century building, the nave covering the area now occupied by the two westernmost bays of the present nave, probably without aisles and with a chancel and western tower. Early in the 15th century the church was extended eastward by the addition of two bays forming a new chancel, probably built round the formerly existing one and taking up the space now occu-

¹ Rochdale is another parish taking its name from the position of the church; Wilmslow in Cheshire, is another. There are no townships so named, but each of

them gives its name to the village around the church.

² Part at least of Hulton was held in thegnage with Worsley, and the mesne

lordship of Barton—and therefore of Manchester—was usually ignored.

³ Gregson, *Fragments* (ed. Harland), 22; also 15. ⁴ *Ibid.* 18.

A HISTORY OF LANCASHIRE

pied by the third and fourth bays of the nave. The next alteration to this 14th-century church, which had a steep-pitched roof, the line of which was revealed against the east wall of the tower in 1878 and is still preserved in the plastered face, seems to have been the pulling down of the north side of the new chancel in the 15th century and extending it northward to the width of the present aisle. The two arches on this side are the oldest in the church, and are of different section from the others. Later the chancel and its northward extension were further extended by a bay, and the south side rebuilt with three arches opposite those on the north side. The original 14th-century nave appears to have been standing till the beginning of the 16th century,⁵ when it was pulled down and the present nave arcade constructed and the clearstory added, leaving a small portion of the 14th-century walls on the west end immediately to the east of the tower. The area of the original building and these three extensions now form the extent of the nave and aisles, a later extension of the chancel having apparently taken place shortly afterwards, early in the 16th century. The chancel was lengthened a further 10 ft. in 1884. The organ chamber north of the chancel was added in 1887.

The chancel has a large seven-light pointed window on the east with central transom and plain perpen-

dicular tracery in the head. The lights have rounded heads and are uncusped. On the north side is a modern arch to the organ chamber, and the south wall has a five-light flat-pointed window with double transom and rounded heads to the lights. The chancel is open to the nave, and is only less in width by the projection of the chancel walls in front of the nave piers. Both chancel and nave are under one continuous flat-pitched oak panelled roof of modern construction (1884), but following the old lines.

The nave has an arcade of five pointed arches resting on octagonal piers, with moulded capitals, the arches of two plain chamfered orders, except to the earlier third and fourth bays on the north side, where the chamfers are hollowed. The second pier on the north side shows the junction of this earlier work with the later 15th-century work of the nave in the clumsy thickening out of the pier and the awkward way in which the western arch springs from it. The capitals of the first pier from the west on the north side and those of the later half of the thickened pier are carved with rude stone heads. The nave is lighted by an almost continuous row of square-headed clearstory windows, each of three lights with rounded heads. The aisles have lean-to roofs and wood and plaster ceilings, lighted by a double row of square-headed windows of three and four lights, the walls apparently having been raised and the upper windows intro-



⁵ The date 1510 is inscribed on one of the roof timbers; Baines, *Lancs.*

duced to light the galleries. The galleries were put up in 1849 and removed in 1884. The aisles extend the length of the nave, but the north aisle now terminates at the east with an open arch to the new organ chamber. There is an ancient piscina in the south-east corner, and a good pointed doorway of 14th-century date at the west end of the north wall opposite the first bay. This doorway, however, seems to have been originally on the west side of the tower and to have been removed to its present position when the new western tower entrance was constructed. The south aisle has a five-light transomed window under a flat-pointed arch at its east end. The south porch is modern.

The tower, the ground floor of which is used as a vestry, has walls 4 ft. thick and opens to the nave by a pointed arch, above which, within the line of the old roof, is a doorway 4 ft. 6 in. high and 2 ft. wide. The ringing chamber above is gained by a ladder, there being no vice, and the upper part of the arch is filled by a glazed screen. Externally the tower is very plain, with diagonal buttresses and a new west doorway and a window above. There is a clock in the south side, and the upper stage on each face has a square-headed two-light louvred belfry window, the lights with trefoiled heads. The tower finishes with an embattled parapet and angle pinnacles.

The fittings are mostly modern, but there is a good 16th-century black oak pulpit with back and canopy, the renaissance detail of which is rather elaborate.⁶ The interior of the church is plastered and painted, the walls of the chancel and nave having a series of figures of great English churchmen, principally leaders of the Protestant Reformation. In a glass case at the end of the nave are preserved the works of Bishop Jewell and other 16th-century Protestant books.

The churchyard is very extensive and lies on the north, east, and south sides of the building, being entered from the road on the south through a stone lych-gate erected in 1903. It has been extended at different times, the last extensions being in 1876 and 1893. The ancient yew tree on the south side is now dead, but the trunk and branches remain with a picturesque covering of ivy. On the same side is the base of a stone cross which formerly stood in Junction Road, before which it is stated that George Marsh spent a night in prayer before he gave himself up at Smithills. A new shaft has been erected on the old base with an inscription recounting the tradition.^{6a}

⁶ The reredos and organ fronts were designed by the present vicar (Rev. H. S. Patterson), and the screen under the tower arch was made in the vicarage by village talent.

^{6a} Marsh's known doctrinal standpoint is adverse to the 'tradition.'

⁷ Glynn, *Lancs. Churches*, 95-6.

^{7a} These are not ecclesiastical plate, being really salvers or waiters on three-shaped feet.

⁸ 'Thomas, persona de la Dene,' attested a Great Lever deed, in favour of Siward son of Robert the chaplain of Deane; Lever Chartul. (Add. MS. 32103), no. 1. Waldeve was another of the early chaplains—'capellano de valle Sancte Marie'; *Hulton Evidences*, 3.

Thomas de Perpoint granted to the monks of Stanlaw, holders of the church of Eccles, all his land by the chapel of St. Mary, Deane, the boundaries given showing the land to be the glebe land of

There is also a pedestal sundial on an octagon shaft with the name of the maker (W. Leigh, Newton) and the latitude and longitude. In the churchyard there were formerly effigies of a knight and a lady, but these have disappeared.⁷

There is a ring of six bells, rehung in 1873.

The plate consists of a chalice of 1607; a chalice of 1655, inscribed 'The gift of Mr. John Aynsworth unto the Parish Church of Deane in Lancasheire in the yeare of our Lord, 1655'; a cover paten of the same year, inscribed 'The gift of Mrs. Judeth Hulton unto the Parish Church of Deane in Lancasheire in the yeare of our Lord, 1655,' and with the arms of Hulton of Hulton; a credence paten of 1729, inscribed 'Ex donatione Annae Kenyon Viduae Georgii Kenyon, nuper de Peel in Com. Lanc. Armigeri 1729,' with the arms of Kenyon impaling Egerton in a lozenge, and the mark of William Atkinson; two patens of 1782, with the mark of Daniel Smith and Robert Sharpe^{7a}; two small flagons of 1801, inscribed 'Presented 1st January 1828 to the Parish Church of Dean, by Jane Daughter of Peter Brooke, Esqre. of Mere Hall, Cheshire, and Relict of William Hulton, Esqre. of Hulton Park, who Died 24th June 1800'; a credence paten of 1846, given by the parish in that year; and a paten of 1901, Birmingham make, inscribed 'The gift of Mrs. Elizabeth Marsh unto the Parish Church of Dean, in Lancs., on the Coronation of Ed. VII, June 26, 1902.'

The registers begin in 1637, but there are earlier transcripts at Chester.

Although St. Mary's, Deane, is mentioned in 13th-century deeds, and its chaplain described as 'parson,'⁸ it was not until 1541 that an independent parish was assigned to it. Until that year the chaplain had been nominated by the vicar of Eccles, within whose parish Deane was included, and had received from him £4 a year as stipend.⁹ Henry VIII, having after the suppression of Whalley Abbey constituted Deane a parish by letters patent, assumed the patronage, which till recently remained in the Crown, the vicar being appointed by the Lord Chancellor. The present patrons are Simeon's Trustees, by purchase in 1877.¹⁰

Inquiries made in 1546 and 1549 showed that apart from the glebe the vicar had no fixed income beyond the £4 paid by the vicar of Eccles.¹¹

In 1650 the vicar of Deane received, besides an

Deane was referred back to an ordinance by the Bishop of Lichfield in 1277. The letters patent of Henry VIII ordered that the vicar of the new parish 'should have the cure of souls, say mass, and administer the sacraments, and bear all the charges belonging to the said vicarage, provided always that the said vicar should not receive of the king any higher stipend than the late chaplain had'; *ibid.* ii, 197-9.

¹⁰ The advowson was sold by the Lord Chancellor under the Act 26 & 27 Vict. cap. 120, known as the Lord Chancellor's Augmentation Act; information of Messrs. Sandilands & Co., solicitors to Simeon's Trustees.

¹¹ *Valor Eccl.* (Rec. Com.), v, 234. In the inquiry of 1546 the value of the glebe was stated as 13s. 4d., and it was said that the £4 was paid by the farmer of the tithes; this was corrected in the later inquiry.

the church; viz. from the chapel cemetery on the west side as far as the Kirk Brook, then by the Muckle Brook to the ditch, and by a hedge to the east side of the cemetery. This grant was confirmed by Robert Grelley, lord of Manchester, in 1276; *Whalley Coucher* (Chet. Soc.), i, 60-2.

Farnworth in the parish of the Deane is so described in a charter of 1292; Lever Chartul. no. 52.

Piers Crompton and Thomas Street were 'parish priests' of Deane at different times between 1505 and 1522; *Duchy Plead.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), i, 104, 107.

⁹ The vicar of Deane in 1544 claimed the pension of £4 a year, which the vicar of Eccles refused to pay on the ground that Deane having been made an independent parish he had no responsibility for it and received no dues from it. The appointment of a separate chaplain for

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old stipend of £10,^{11a} a share of the rectorial tithes, sequestered from a 'delinquent,' Mr. Anderton of Lostock.¹² Bishop Gastrell recorded the income as £18 19s., of which £5 was from surplice fees and £10 was paid by the impropiator of the tithes;

but in 1714 money and lands to the value of £700 were given in augmentation.¹³ The value of the benefice is now stated as £400 a year.¹⁴

In 1724 there were eleven churchwardens, each hamlet choosing one by house-row.¹⁵

The following is a list of the vicars:—

Institution	Name	Patron	Cause of Vacancy
20 Feb. 1541-2	William Rothwell ¹⁶	King	d. last inc.
oc. 1563	Richard Ormishaw ¹⁷	—	—
15 Oct. 1575	David Dee, M.A. ¹⁸	Queen	d. last inc.
31 Mar. 1593	Lancelot Clegge ¹⁹	—	—
— 1597	James Pendlebury ²⁰	—	—
1 Mar. 1636-7	Richard Hardy, M.A. ²¹	King	—
Aug. 1643	John Tilsley, M.A. ²²	—	—
19 Nov. 1662	John Angier, M.A. ²³	King	—
2 June 1663			
22 Nov. 1673	Richard Hatton ²⁴	"	—
4 Dec. 1673			
13 Jan. 1712-3	James Rothwell, B.A. ²⁵	Queen	d. R. Hatton
29 May 1767	Thomas Withnell, M.A. ²⁶	King	d. J. Rothwell
13 June 1776	Robert Lathom, M.A. ²⁷	"	d. last inc.
16 April 1818	Thomas Brocklebank ²⁸	"	d. R. Lathom
6 Feb. 1830	Edward Girdlestone, M.A. ²⁹	"	res. T. Brocklebank
7 April 1855	Francis Henry Thicknesse, D.D. ³⁰	Queen	res. E. Girdlestone
May 1868	William Bashall, M.A. ³¹	"	res. F. H. Thicknesse
7 April 1877	Henry Sheridan Patterson ³²	Simeon's Trustees	res. W. Bashall

^{11a} It does not seem to be known when this £10 was granted by the tithe owner.

¹² *Commonw. Ch. Surv.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), 37. The remainder of the parochial tithes was divided among the chapelries.

In 1723 Sir Lawrence Anderton sold to Francis Loggin (Colston) the rectory (i.e. the tithes, &c.); *Pal. of Lanc. Feet of F. bdl.* 289, m. 93. Francis Coulston sold it to James Edge in 1734; *Piccope MSS.* (Chet. Lib.), iii, 250 (from Roll 5, Geo. II at Preston); and in 1735 Ralph Banks purchased it from James Edge; *Pal. of Lanc. Feet of F. bdl.* 313, m. 39. By 1782 a moiety seems to have been acquired by the Kenyons; *Pal. of Lanc. Plea R.* 635, m. 2.

¹³ *Notitia Cestr.* (Chet. Soc.), ii, 37, 38. The augmentation consisted of £107 in money and a house and lands worth £420, held for that or other charitable use at the discretion of the trustees; £200 was added by Queen Anne's Bounty.

Giles Marsh, by his will of 1615, left £10 towards the procuring of a yearly stipend for the curate at the Deane Church, for a school; *Harl. MS.* 2176, fol. 32.

¹⁴ *Manch. Dioc. Dir.*

¹⁵ *Notitia Cestr.* (Chet. Soc.), ii, 39.

¹⁶ *Act Bks.* at Chester. Paid first-fruits 28 June 1542; *Lancs. and Ches. Rec.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), ii, 408. William Rothwell was one of the king's chaplains; *Ch. Gds.* (Chet. Soc.), 28. He was still vicar in 1552; *ibid.*

¹⁷ Nothing is known of the clergy at Deane between 1552 and 1563, when Richard Ormishaw's name is recorded in the visitation list. A Richard Ormishaw, vicar of Acton in Cheshire, died 1559.

¹⁸ The Church P. at Chester Dioc. Reg. begin here. The surname is otherwise given as Dewhurst. He was 'no preacher' in 1590; *S.P. Dom. Eliz.* xxi, 47.

¹⁹ Church Papers.

²⁰ In 1601 he was charged with drunkenness, fornication, and other offences; he was in addition 'suspected not to be of sound religion'; *Visit. P.* at Chester.

About 1612 he was described as 'a lewd (i.e. unlearned) minister, neither preacher himself, nor will suffer any other to preach'; *Hist. MSS. Com. Rep.* xiv, App. iv, 12. Nothing is said of any chapelries.

He contributed 13s. 4d. to a subsidy in 1622, the lecturer (or curate), Mr. Horrocks, paying £3; *Misc.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), i, 66.

²¹ The institutions from 1636 to 1776 are taken from the *Inst. Bks. P.R.O.* as printed in *Lancs. and Ches. Antiq. Notes*.

Richard Hardy signed the Protestation early in 1642 but is said to have been expelled as a Royalist.

²² Educated at Edinburgh, laured at 1637; a minister at Deane under Alexander Horrocks of Westhoughton in 1641; married Margaret daughter of Ralph Chetham and niece of Humphrey Chetham; showed himself a zealous and intolerant Presbyterian on the outbreak of the Civil War; promoted to the vicarage of Deane in August 1643; signed the 'Harmonious Consent', 1648; described as 'a painful, godly, preaching minister' in 1650, about which time he, like many other Presbyterians, refused to take the engagement and suffered a temporary loss of his benefice. He assisted in the formation of the Chetham Library, having been nominated a trustee by the founder. Ejected from the vicarage in 1662, he was allowed to reside in the house, and with the goodwill of the new vicar and the tolerance of Bishop Wilkins afterwards preached in Deane Church, as the 'lecturer', until Bishop Pearson silenced him in 1673. After this he retired to Manchester, where he died in Dec. 1684. From a full account by J. E. Bailey in *Lancs. and Ches. Antiq. Notes*, i, 191, 205; ii, 102; see also *Dict. Nat. Biog.*; will in *Wills* (Chet. Soc. new ser.), i, 169.

²³ Only son of the celebrated John Angier of Denton (see *Dict. Nat. Biog.*); born 1629; sent to Emmanuel College, Cambridge, and being (as it is supposed) expelled, went to New England, graduat-

ing M.A. at Harvard in 1655. Returning to England he was ordained in 1657 and placed at Ringley. Conforming he was made vicar of Deane in 1663, where it is supposed he stayed till his death; *Manch. Classis* (Chet. Soc.), 408-10.

²⁴ This vicar seems to have been a Presbyterian at heart; the second institution was necessary because he had not renounced the Covenant. He connived at the occupation of Horwich Chapel by a Nonconformist; *Notitia Cestr.* (Chet. Soc.) ii, 42, 43; *Ch. P.* at Chester. He was, of course, 'conformable' in 1689; *Hist. MSS. Com. Rep.* xiv, App. iv, 229. His will was proved at Chester, 1712.

²⁵ Son of Ralph Rothwell of Bolton; educated at Brasenose College, Oxford; B.A. 1711; Foster, *Alumni Oxon.* He purchased the advowson of Sefton, to which his son and grandson succeeded. He died 16 May 1766.

²⁶ Educated at Brasenose College, Oxford; M.A. 1755; Foster, *Alumni*; *Manch. Sch. Reg.* (Chet. Soc.), i, 31. His presentation is dated 2 June 1766.

²⁷ Son of Nicholas Lathom of Wigan; educated at Brasenose College, Oxford; M.A. 1776; Foster, *Alumni*.

²⁸ He had been curate of Bradshaw.

²⁹ Educated at Balliol College, Oxford; M.A. 1829. In 1854 he was appointed residentiary canon of Bristol, and resigned Deane. He was beneficed in the west of England, and distinguished himself by his interest in the condition of the agricultural labourers. He died at Bristol in 1884; see *Dict. Nat. Biog.*; Baines, *Lancs.* (ed. Croston), iii, 131.

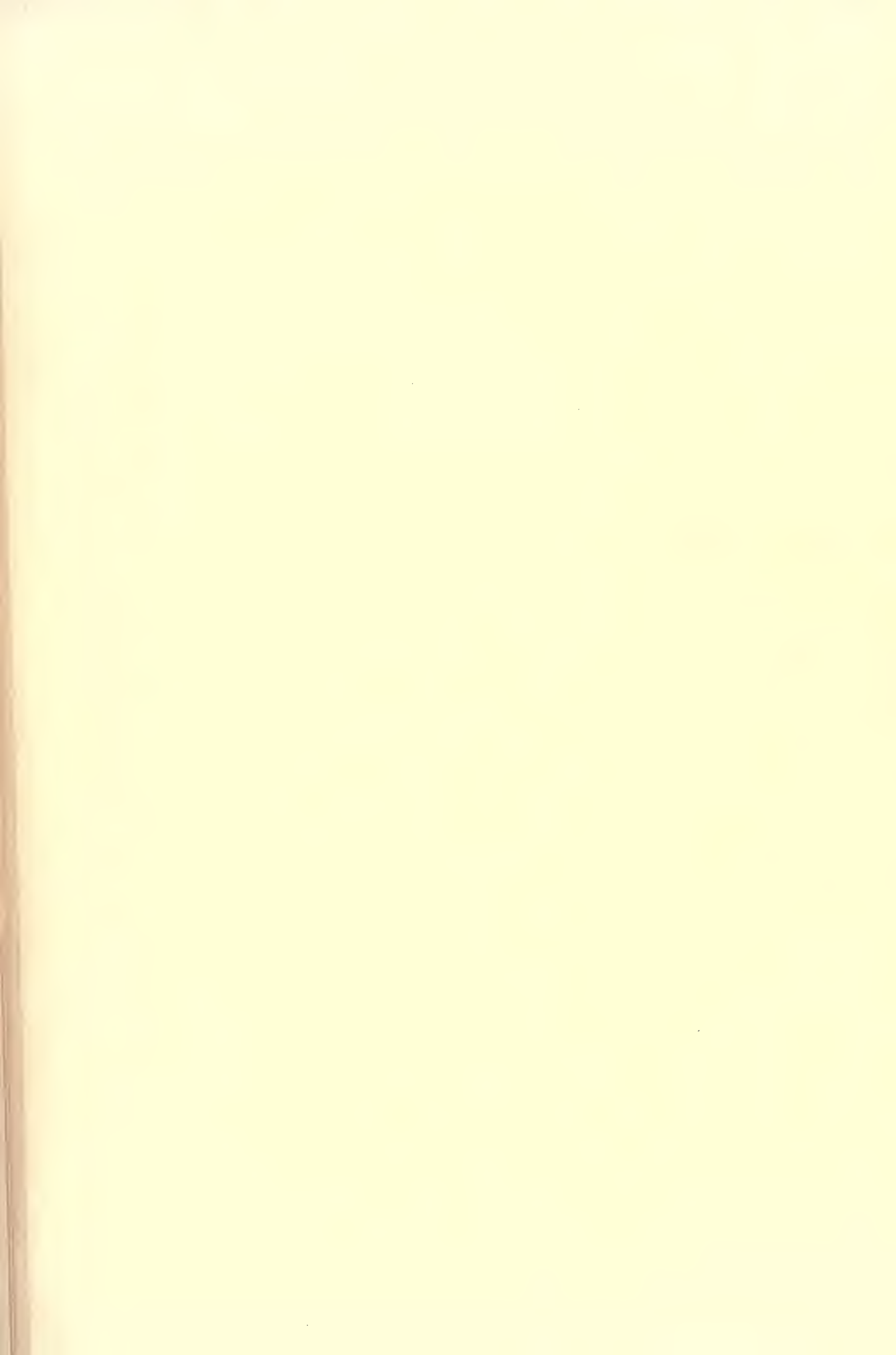
³⁰ Educated at Brasenose College, Oxford; M.A. 1854; hon. canon of Manchester 1863; vicar of Brackley 1868; Bishop of Leicester (suffragan of Peterborough), 1888.

³¹ Educated at St. John's College, Oxford; M.A. 1855; left Deane to be curate at St. Barnabas's, Kensington.

³² Educated at the Church Missionary College, Islington, and served in India 1862-6; rector of Bartlow, 1872-7.



DEANE CHURCH FROM THE SOUTH-EAST



There does not seem to have been any regularly founded chantry at Deane, but in 1522 Richard Heaton stated that he had caused an aisle to be built in the church, which he calls a 'parish church,' and paid most of the charge; and had, in addition, 'edified a chapel of timber' in the aisle, wherein was an altar, with images of the Holy Trinity and St. Anne.³³ In 1552 Lambert Heaton claimed a chalice and suit of mass vestments in Deane Church as heirlooms.³⁴

The *Clergy List* of 1541-2 shows that there were, in addition to the vicar, two priests whose stipends were paid by two of the squires;³⁵ there were probably at least two more attached to the chapels at Westhoughton and Horwich, for in 1548 the vicar and six others were recorded in the bishop's visitation list. There is no entry in 1554. The staff had dwindled to three by 1563³⁶—the vicar and the curates of the two chapels; and two years later one of the curates had gone, the vicar, Richard Ormishaw, and the curate of Horwich, Peter Makinson, being those recorded.³⁷ In 1592 it was reported that the curate did not catechize, and that the annual perambulations were neglected.³⁸

³³ *Duchy Plead.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.) i, 111. Certain evildoers had entered the church by night and destroyed the timber work of his chapel. John Hulton of Farnworth in 1486 bequeathed 20 marks to the building of a north aisle, and a missal for the use of the chapel there to be 'bygget'; *Wills* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), 23.

³⁴ *Ch. Gds.* 27.

³⁵ *Clergy List* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), 13.

³⁶ John Heaton in 1559 was in danger of losing house and goods for taking away a mass book from the curate of Deane 'since the Queen's Majesty's proceedings'; all the books were burned; *Ch. Gds.* 30, quoting S.P. Dom. Eliz. x, 286, &c.

³⁷ From the Visit. Lists at Chester. The list of ornaments in *Ch. Gds.* 26, 27, shows that the church was well supplied, there remaining in 1552 eight sets of vestments; others had disappeared. There were also 'sixteen pieces of old linen used about the sepulchre.'

³⁸ *Lancs. and Ches. Antiq. Soc.* xix, 60. Sir Gilbert Gerard, farmer of the benefice, did not provide quarterly sermons.

³⁹ The 'lecturer' at Deane was also curate of Westhoughton.

⁴⁰ For the later inquiry there are two reports—one for the part of the ancient parish now within the borough of Bolton, and the other for the remainder.

⁴¹ Deane was entitled to a share of £500 bequeathed by John Guest, for Bury and other places. This is supposed to have been represented by £63, which in 1786 was in the hands of John and James Edge of Moss, who paid £3 3s. as interest. About 1818 payment ceased on the death of the last of that branch of the family, but the vicar of Deane afterwards succeeded in recovering £100 from its representatives for principal and interest. This was invested in a plot of land and a house, the rent of which was for a long time £9 a year. Owing to disputes as to the exact area of the site, and the dilapidation of the building, the income has declined.

A sum of money formerly producing £4 a year had been lost before 1828.

⁴² George Seddon in 1664 left £100 for the poor of Farnworth and Kearsley,

to be spent on linen and woollen cloth. The overseers of the townships now receive £2 10s. a year, which is distributed in doles of cloth.

Farnworth, Little Hulton, Middle Hulton, and Westhoughton participate in the £1,100 memorial fund raised to commemorate the Hon. Algernon Egerton; the interest is given towards scholarships.

⁴³ See last note. Kearsley also shares in the charities of William Baguley, founded in 1728; the income is distributed in doles of calico, &c. Jonathan Greenhalgh gave £20 to build a culvert, on condition that the township should give £1 a year to the poor in linen cloth. This was still in operation in 1828, but had ceased long before 1862. Anne Cross in 1814 left £200, the interest of which was to be divided yearly among ten aged and infirm poor men and women. The capital is now represented by £193 consols. The interest is distributed according to the testator's wishes.

⁴⁴ About 1828 there was a rent-charge of £1, which had been paid for forty years at least for the poor from some unknown source. The payment was afterwards discontinued, apparently on the death of a trustee. The trustees of the charity of Adam Mort of Astley used to give 11s. a year to the poor of Little Hulton, but this was judged irregular and discontinued.

⁴⁵ Joseph Ridgway, by his will of 1841, left about £15,000 for charitable uses in Horwich and a large sum for a school in Bolton. The sum apportioned to the poor is distributed in articles of clothing or bedding, the average value of the dole being 7s.

Richard Pilkington in 1786 left £50, and — Morris left £15 for the poor of Horwich. In 1828 it was found that the trustees had built a cottage on Kitfield with the money, and the rent, £5 10s., was distributed in linen cloth. The gross rent is now over £7 a year, and is distributed every few years in doles of calico, &c., preference being given to poor persons attending the New Chapel. Robert Greenhalgh in 1807 left two cottages partly for the minister of this chapel and partly for the poor; the latter portion of

In the 17th century some improvement was effected, but the normal staff does not seem to have risen above three, even under the Commonwealth.³⁹ From the account of the vicars it will be seen that clergy and people were of the Puritan school, one of the chapels after the Restoration being held by Non-conformists for many years. Here, as elsewhere in South Lancashire, the growth of the population has led in recent times to the erection of many new churches and the subdivision of the parish.

Reports on the charities of Deane *CHARITIES* have been made in 1828 and 1902.⁴⁰

For the whole parish there is a small endowment supposed to be part of a greater sum; the interest has been added to the church poor's money.⁴¹ Farnworth shares in several charities.⁴² Kearsley also shares some.⁴³ A special benefaction for Little Hulton has been lost.⁴⁴ The poor of Horwich receive £84 from the legacy of Joseph Ridgway, and there are some other charities.⁴⁵ For Westhoughton there are no endowments for the poor.⁴⁶ Middle Hulton has a share in two Worsley gifts.⁴⁷ Rumworth receives £60 a year from a farm given by Ralph and James Crompton.⁴⁸

the income now amounts to £9 13s. a year, and is distributed periodically in calico, &c. The benefactor desired a preference to be given to those attending the chapel.

From the estate of Richard Shaw, who died in 1897, a net sum of £185 has been received by the trustees of Lee Congregational Chapel for the benefit of the poor; the interest is given in food and clothing.

In 1802 Thomas Schofield conveyed a piece of land for the benefit of the land-owners of the township. He is 'believed to have been a defaulting overseer, and to have given this land in payment of a debt of £79 due to the parish.' The Lee Mill has been built upon the land, for which a rent of £6 2s. 8d. is paid. At one time this money was distributed among the poor; then it was allowed to accumulate for many years, and has been applied to the provision of a free library.

⁴⁶ In 1828 £3 was paid by the overseers out of the rates, and distributed to the poor in doles of linen cloth, in respect of a gift by Ann Rycroft and — France, which was supposed to have been used for the repair of the workhouse. The workhouse was sold, and the payment of the £3 ceased, there being no proof of the advance of charity money towards it.

⁴⁷ The Algernon Egerton Memorial Fund has been mentioned. The other is the charity of Dame Dorothy Legh, who in 1656 gave money for the minister of Ellenbrook Chapel and the poor of Worsley and Middle Hulton. A place called Common Head in Tyldesley was purchased, and in 1828, according to old custom, a quarter of the rent was reserved for the poor, one-third of the sum (about £5 10s.) being given to the overseer of Middle Hulton, who distributed it at his discretion. The share for this township is still one-twelfth, but now amounts to £30 a year. Doles of land, &c., to the value of 5s. or 10s. are distributed.

⁴⁸ Ralph Crompton, M.D., by his will of 1623, and James Crompton his brother in 1636 left a sum which with interest amounted to £442 by 1653, chiefly for the school at Deane, but in part for the poor. In 1828 the estate appropriated to

A HISTORY OF LANCASHIRE

RUMWORTH

Rumhworth, 1242; Rumworth, 1278; Rumworth, 1292; Romeworthe, 1346.

Rumworth is the central township, and contains the parish church. It measures about $2\frac{1}{2}$ miles from east to west, but the average breadth is a little over a mile; the area is 1,244 acres. The River Croal forms the northern boundary, and from it the surface rises to the south. In the western part of the township is the reservoir called Rumworth Lodge.

The main road is that from Bolton to Wigan, passing by Deane Church; to the east is that from Bolton to Tyldesley, on which is the hamlet or suburb of Daubhill. The London and North Western Company's line from Bolton to Kenyon crosses the eastern end, with a station called Rumworth and Daubhill.

In 1901 the population of Rumworth and Middle Hulton was 14,953.

Agriculture is still an important industry; there are collieries; and cotton manufactures and bleach works are carried on.

The Bolton Industrial School is in Rumworth.

Part of the township was incorporated with Bolton in 1872; the remainder was added in 1898.

RUMWORTH was in 1212 joined **MANOR** with Lostock in Bolton as the third part of a knight's fee, held of the lords of Manchester.¹ In later times the Andertons of Lostock claimed a manor in Rumworth,² but the Hultons of Hulton and Farnworth were usually said to hold the third part of a fee in Rumworth and Lostock, performing suit of court and rendering for sake fee 4s. 6d., for ward of Lancaster Castle 3s. 6d., and puture of the serjeant and foresters.³ The last-named service was commuted into payments of 28s. and 16s. re-

spectively from the fourteen oxgangs of land in Rumworth, and the eight oxgangs of Lostock.⁴

With Farnworth the manor of Rumworth was purchased by the Hultons of Over Hulton, and has descended in this family.⁵ Sir Charles Tempest, the heir of the Andertons, had a large estate in the township.

The local surname occurs,⁶ but nothing is known of the family.

The Hospital of the Savoy had a rent-charge of 5 marks out of the manor of Rumworth.⁷

The contributors to the land tax in 1789 were Henry Blundell, who paid nearly five-sixths,—Blackburne, and William Hulton.⁸

The inclosure award is preserved at Preston.

The parish church of Deane has been described above. St. George the Martyr's, Daubhill, was built in 1880; the patronage is vested in trustees.⁹

The school at Deane was endowed in 1636; it probably existed already.

HORWICH

Harewych, 1277; Horewyche, 1327.

The township of Horwich has an area of 3,254½ acres,¹ and measures about 3 miles from north to south, by 2 miles across. The highest point, 1,475 ft., is in the extreme north; from this the ground slopes downward to the south, but most rapidly to the west, where about 350 ft. is reached. Along the south-western border the Coal Measures occur, on Wilders and Horwich Moors the Millstone Grit, and in the intermediate slopes the Gannister Beds or Lower Coal Measures.

A little to the south of the Rivington Reservoirs lies the town of Horwich, built at the junction of two

the latter service was a copyhold farm (Bannister's) in Tottington Lower End, let at £38 a year, which sum was distributed in gifts of money from 10s. to 20s. each. The rent has increased to £60 a year, and is now distributed in doles of blankets, sheets, and flannel of the value of 7s. each.

John Laithwaite in 1728 left £10 for a bread charity. For some time 10s. a year, afterwards increased to 20s., was given in bread out of the rents of the Crompton Charity, it being understood that the capital had been expended in improvements of that estate. The special payments for bread had ceased by 1828, it being thought better to use the rent otherwise.

¹ *Lancs. Inq. and Extents* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), i, 55. The heirs of Thomas de Pierpoint then held them, and Richard de Pierpoint in 1242; *ibid.* 154. Rumworth and Lostock together had three ploughlands.

² See for instance *Pal. of Lanc. Feet of F. bdlc.* 156, m. 174, relating to a settlement in 1654. The Andertons' title was derived from the Athertons of Atherton, who had lands in the township, held (with Lostock, &c.) by a rent of 11d., but do not appear to have claimed a manor; *Duchy of Lanc. Inq. p.m.* iii, 39; viii, 40.

Richard son of Thomas de Pierpoint was defendant to a claim for a tenement in Rumworth in 1276; *Assize R.* 1238, m. 31. In 1282 and 1302 William son of William de Anderton and Almaria his

wife held Rumworth [and Lostock] for the third part of a knight's fee; *Lancs. Inq. and Extents*, i, 248, 314. In 1292 William de Anderton and Almaria his wife were defendants jointly with John de Bradshaw and Cecily his wife, in a claim put forward by Robert de Sunderland respecting land and a share of the waste in Rumworth; Almaria was the daughter and heir of Thomas de Pierpoint, while Cecily had dower; *Assize R.* 408, m. 9.

The Athertons' holding in Lostock and Rumworth was the subject of disputes in 1337 and 1347; *ibid.* 1424, m. 8; 1435, m. 18.

³ The title of the Hultons appears to have been derived from a purchase made by Richard de Hulton in 1310, Almaria or Ameria, widow of William de Anderton, selling the manor; *Final Conc.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), ii, 4.

The details in the text are from the survey of 1320, Richard de Hulton being tenant; *Mamecestre* (Chet. Soc.), 288, 341. In 1331 Richard de Hulton claimed certain tenements in Rumworth from John la Warre and Joan his wife, but did not proceed; *Assize R.* 1404, m. 27.

John de Hulton, of Manchester and of Farnworth, received lands in Rumworth from Richard de Hulton, who made a division of his estates about 1334; *ibid.* 1435, m. 40. In 1346 the heirs of John son of Henry de Hulton were returned as holding the third part of a fee in Rumworth and Lostock which the Pierpoints had formerly held; *Feod. of 20 Edw. III* in *Harl. MS.* 2042, fol. 181. In 1473

John Hulton held the lordship of Rumworth by the ancient services, rendering for sake fee 3s., and for castle ward 2s. 4d.—two-thirds of the earlier payments; *Mamecestre*, 480, 496. The manor remained with the Farnworth branch of the family till the middle of the 17th century. Thus William Hulton of Farnworth was in 1556 found to have held it of the lord of Manchester by the third part of a knight's fee and the rent of 4s. 6d.; *Duchy of Lanc. Inq. p.m.* x, 32; see also *Lancs. Inq. p.m.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), iii, 470. The manors of Farnworth and Rumworth were subjects of fines in 1658 and 1659; *Pal. of Lanc. Feet of F. bdlc.* 163, m. 67; 164, m. 52.

⁴ Extent of 1322 in *Mamecestre*, 377, 401; the remaining two oxgangs in Rumworth must have been the glebe of Deane Chapel.

⁵ The manor of Rumworth is expressly included with Over Hulton in a settlement of 1738; *Pal. of Lanc. Feet of F. bdlc.* 321, m. 3.

⁶ In 1292 Ellen, widow of Richard de Lostock, alleged that Mabel, wife of Henry de Rumworth, was keeping two charters from her; *Assize R.* 408, m. 13. Richard son of Henry de Rumworth had land in Middleton near Bury in 1317; *Final Conc.* ii, 22.

⁷ *Ch. Gds.* (Chet. Soc.), 30.

⁸ Land tax returns at Preston.

⁹ For a legacy to it see *End. Charities Rep.* (Bolton Borough) for 1904, p. 129.

¹ 3,257, including 39 of inland water; *Census Rep.* 1901.

roads from Bolton, which are the principal ones traversing the township. To the south-east of the town are the great locomotive works of the Lancashire and Yorkshire Railway Company, the main industry of the place. The company has a short branch from the Bolton and Preston line, with a terminus at Horwich, opened in 1870. There is an electric tramway to Bolton. The Thirlmere aqueduct passes through the township.

To the hearth tax of 1666 the largest house contributing was that of Thomas Anderton, with six hearths; the total number was seventy-six.²

The population in 1901 numbered 15,084.

Great bleach works and cotton mills have long been carried on here, also calico printing. There are fire-brick and tile works, important stone quarries, and several collieries. The northern part of the township is moorland; the chief crop is grass.

A local board was formed in 1872;³ this in 1894 became an urban district council, the township being divided into four wards, each returning three members. The meetings are held in the Public Hall, built in 1878. The Railway Mechanics' Institute was built in 1887-8.

There is a weekly newspaper.

The moor was inclosed in 1815-18.⁴ The Horwich race meetings lasted from 1837 to 1847.⁵ Pace-eggs used to be collected by the children on the Sunday before Easter.⁶

The two pyramidal cairns called the Two Lads are variously supposed to mark the resting-places of two sons of early kings, or of two boys who lost their way on the moor and died of exposure.⁷

HORWICH was the forest or chase of *MANOR* the barons of Manchester,⁸ by whom it

had been afforested perhaps as early as the reign of Henry I. Hence it first appears in the records as the scene of poaching raids, headed sometimes, it would appear, by neighbouring gentry.⁹ Various surveys have been preserved,¹⁰ that of 1322 being very full. It states that in Horwich there were sixteen plots of pasture, not measured because of their extent in wood and open ground, and two of these plots made a vaccary or booth. After describing the eight vaccaries, the extent proceeds: 'The wood of Horwich contains a circuit of sixteen leagues, and is yearly worth in pannage, aeries of eagles, herons and goshawks, in honey, millstones, and iron mines, in charcoal-burning, and the like issues, 60*s.*; of which the vesture in oaks, elms, and wholly covered with such, 160 marks. The said wood is so thoroughly several that no one may enter there without licence, and of every beast found there without licence the owner shall give for that trespass 6*d.*, by fixed custom.'¹¹

In course of time the woods were cleared and Horwich became an ordinary agricultural township; but the survey of 1473 gives only four tenants' holdings.¹²

² Subs. R. bdlc. 250, no. 9, Lancs.

³ *Lond. Gaz.* 20 Aug. 1872.

⁴ Hampson, *Horwich*, 191; by Act of 55 Geo. III, cap. 31 (private).

⁵ Hampson, *op. cit.* 229-35.

⁶ *Ibid.* 239.

⁷ *Ibid.* 36, 37. On pp. 67-70 is related the story of a ghost-laying exploit of the Rev. S. Johnson, curate of Horwich.

⁸ *Lancs. and Ches. Antig. Soc.* xix, 17.

⁹ In 1246 John de Blackburn gave a mark for licence to concord with Thomas Grelley in a plea 'as to why they chased in his forest'; Richard de Ollerton and Henry de Whalley also giving a mark for a similar licence. The three acknowledged that they had no right to chase in the forest of Horwich, and that in future neither they nor their heirs should chase therein without the leave of Thomas Grelley and his heirs; Assize R. 404, m. 8.

Eight years afterwards a number of men, with dogs, bows, and cross-bows, entered Thomas Grelley's parks in Manchester and his forest of Horwich and took and carried off the wild animals therein; likewise seizing the forester and abducting him; *Lancs. Inq. and Extents* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), i, 193.

Again in 1277 Robert Grelley prosecuted Martin de Rumworth and Robert son of Robert de Leigh for carrying off the deer of Horwich Wood; *De Banco R.* 21, m. 57 d.

A century later Sir John La Warre impeached Nicholas de Worthington and others for cutting down trees and breaking closes at Horwich; *ibid.* 459, m. 38, 10 d.; 463, m. 6.

¹⁰ A brief extent of 1282 is printed in *Lancs. Inq. and Extents*, i, 247; there were then eight vaccaries, worth £19 yearly; pannage and the eyries of sparrow-hawks were worth 40*s.* There were three foresters.

In 1322 it was stated that these three foresters gave to the lord for their

bailiwick, one year with another, £4. They answered to the lord for all agistments and trespasses, pannage, honey, vert and venison, &c. They were sustained by the townships lying adjacent to the forest; this being charged on Lostock as 8 oxgangs of land; Rumworth, 14; Heaton, 4; Halliwell, 3; Sharples, 4; Longworth, 2; and Anderton, 7; the total being (inaccurately) given as 40 oxgangs. At the hawks' nesting time the people of these townships, being warned by the foresters, gathered at Horwich Lee, and, after being sworn, were sent through the forest to see what nests had been made; from this time until St. Barnabas the foresters themselves had to keep watch in the forest day and night. When the young hawks were hatched the villagers were again sent through the forest to collect the nestlings, which they had to deliver to the foresters or bailiffs of the lord; see *Mamecestre* (Chet. Soc.), 376, 377.

¹¹ *Ibid.* 366, &c.

The eight vaccaries are thus described:—

1. Aquous Booth Lee (wood) and Little Hordern (moor), together with 53*s.* 4*d.* a year, furnished also ten carts of hay;

2. Ridley (wood) and Sharpen Lee (moor), 60*s.* and twelve loads of hay;

3. Calverley (wood) and Wild Boars Clough or Great Hordern (moor), 53*s.* 4*d.*;

4. Wilderhurst (wood) and Brodned (moor), 66*s.* 8*d.* and twelve loads of hay;

5. Lestold (meadow and pasture), 60*s.* and twenty loads;

6. Hardersollins (moor);

7. Horwich Lee (wood) and Egberden or Haghead (moor), 66*s.* 8*d.* and one load of hay;

8. Oaken Lee (wood) and Egberden or Withinrod (moor), 66*s.* 8*d.* and twenty loads.

In 1430 Lord La Warre granted to feoffees lands called Oaken Lee Wood, Wilderswood, Calverley Wood, &c., with all oaks growing at Horwich Lee, at a

rent of 26½ marks; Anderton of Lostock Evidences (Mr. Stonor), no. 2.

A traditional story of the vengeance of a band of foresters and outlaws, the wife and three children of the lord being murdered by them, is told in Hampson's *Horwich*, 18-21.

¹² *Mamecestre*, 484; viz.:—Ralph Radcliffe, holding a pasture at the rent of £8 16*s.* 8*d.*; Edward Greenhalgh, four messuages in Horwich Lee at £3 13*s.* 4*d.*; Edward Hulme, six messuages in Oaken Lee at £10 4*s.* 2*d.*; and William Heaton, three messuages at Ridley Wood at 20*s.*

In 1425 the feoffees restored to James son of Geoffrey Greenhalgh a messuage with the lands adjacent, called Horwich Lee Wood, within bounds beginning near the Roodgate, by the division between the wood and the moor, as far as the head of the Clough between the Strinds and Ridley Head; by the Clough to Olton Brook to boundary stones between Lostock and Horwich Lee Wood; by these stones and others between Blackrod and the same wood to the stones between the wood and Oaken Lee Wood, and so to the starting point; Anderton Evidences, no. 1.

In the reign of Henry VIII disputes arose between Richard Heaton and Bryan Heaton concerning Ridley Wood and Park Wood, Bryan claiming by a grant from his brother William son and heir of Richard Heaton, deceased. The bounds of Ridley Wood began at the head of the Clough between the Strinds and Ridley Head, went down the Clough to Holton Brook to the bounds of Lostock, by these to the water of Yaresworth, up this to Greenwall Syke and so to a paling between Ridley Head and Horwich Moor. The evidences produced showed that the land had been granted originally by the ancestors of Lord La Warre; *Duchy Plead.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), i, 121; ii, 219.

For some other disputes see *Ducatus Lanc.* (Rec. Com.), iii, 130, 189, 183.

A HISTORY OF LANCASHIRE

Among the tenants were the Heaton of Heaton and other neighbouring families.¹³ In the Subsidy Lists of 1541¹⁴ and 1622¹⁵ no landowners are named in Horwich.

At the Court Leet of Manchester in 1598 the constables of Horwich presented a number of persons for tithing men.¹⁶

The Andertons of Lostock, successors of the Heaton, acquired the manor of Horwich and held it in the 17th century and onwards.¹⁷ Henry Blundell was the chief landowner in 1788.¹⁸ The minor family of Anderton of Horwich sprang from Thomas Anderton, a younger brother of Christopher Anderton of Lostock (1592), who settled in this township. His son Lawrence, who became a Jesuit, was the author of the famous hymn, 'Jerusalem, my happy home,' and, under the *alias* of John Brereley, of various controversial works, such as *The Protestant's Apology for the Roman Church*, printed at the secret press at Lostock.¹⁹ Lawrence's brother Christopher was prothonotary of the common pleas at Lancaster by patent dated 1607. Administration of the goods of Thomas Anderton of Horwich, apparently son of Christopher, was granted in 1669 to his brother William. The horrible death of this William (Dr. Anderton of Wigan) is described by Oliver Heywood (*Diaries*, iii, 211). His will was proved in 1675; his executors were to bring up his son Thomas, aged eight, in the 'knowledge of the true Catholic church.' The guardianship was entrusted to Anne Anderton, widow (grandmother), and Anne Tootell (aunt).

Thomas Willoughby, a descendant of the second Lord Willoughby of Parham, married Eleanor daughter of Hugh Whittle of Horwich, and lived at Shaw Place in Charnock. Being erroneously supposed to be the heir male he was summoned to Parliament as Lord Willoughby of Parham. He died in 1692, and was buried at Horwich. His son, two grandsons, and a great-grandson followed him in the title. They were Presbyterians. The last of them, Hugh Wil-

loughby, enjoyed the title from 1715 to 1765; he was president of the Society of Antiquaries in 1754.²⁰

In 1322-3 the herbage of the wood called Le Twecheles, now Twitchills, could not be agisted, through the deficiency of cattle in the district, owing to the Scottish raid at midsummer, 1322.²¹

Among those whose estates were sequestrated for 'delinquency' by the Parliament in the time of the Civil Wars was Philip Martindale of Horwich, chapman.²²

A chapel of ease existed at Horwich **CHURCH** before the Reformation, for in 1552 it was found provided with the ornaments for saying mass. There were also three bells, 'which are the poor men's of the town, bought with their own money, and the said bells not yet hanged up.'²³ In 1565 the commissioners for removing superstitious ornaments reported to the Bishop of Chester that they had taken from this chapel 'vestment, alb, altar-cloth, corporas, and other idolatrous gear.'²⁴ There was then a curate there,²⁵ but the chapel seems afterwards to have fallen into obscurity and is not mentioned again²⁶ till the survey of 1650, when Mr. Henry Pendlebury usually preached there on Sunday without any stipend beyond the people's offerings.²⁷ The recommendation to make Horwich a separate parish was not acted upon, and it is probable that down to the Revolution nothing more than a Sunday service was performed by the vicar or curate of Deane. In 1669 numerous meetings of Nonconformists were reported in this parish, and at Horwich Chapel there was a 'conventicle,' but the ringleaders had been prosecuted.²⁸

After the Revolution, with the connivance of the vicar, the chapel was used by Nonconformists, but in 1716 Bishop Gastrell recovered it for the Established Church, and it has since been retained. There was a chapel stock of £190, in the hands of Nonconforming trustees, who refused to pay the interest when the chapel was taken from them. In 1723, however,

¹³ The inquisitions show the following to have held lands in Horwich:—Barton of Smithills, Hulton of Farnworth, Hulton of Over Hulton, and Greenhalgh of Brandlesholme.

Andrew Barton was in 1549 said to have held a moiety of the manor of Horwich, eight messuages, &c., of Lord La Warre by a rent of £8 16s. 8d.; Duchy of Lanc. Inq. p.m. ix, no. 27. He was the heir of Ralph Radcliffe of 1473.

Thomas Greenhalgh was in 1577 found to have held eight messuages, &c., in Horwich (not called a manor), of the lord of Manchester by a rent of £3 13s. 4d.; *ibid.* xii, no. 10.

¹⁴ *Misc.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), i, 139; the contributors for 'goods' were Bryan Heaton and four others.

¹⁵ *Ibid.* 151; James Urnston and James Stones were the contributors.

¹⁶ *Manch. Cr. Leet Rec.* i, 140. The constables of Horwich seem to have been summoned to the court till 1733, but had ceased to appear; *ibid.* vii, 25.

¹⁷ In the inquisition of Christopher Anderton in 1593 his tenement in Horwich is mentioned incidentally only as an appurtenance of Lostock and Heaton held of the manor of Manchester; Duchy of Lanc. Inq. p.m. xvi, no. 41. James Anderton his son and heir purchased the manor of Horwich from Nicholas Mosley and

Elizabeth his wife and Rowland Mosley and Anne his wife in 1599; Pal. of Lanc. Feet of F. bdlc. 61, no. 351; Anderton D. no. 76.

In 1620 part of Andertons' land in Horwich was held of the king by knight's service, and the remainder of the lord of Manchester; *Lancs. Inq. p.m.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), ii, 164. The manor is named in an Anderton settlement of 1654; Pal. of Lanc. Feet of F. bdlc. 156, m. 174. Later it descended in the same manner as Anderton to the Blundells and Stonors.

¹⁸ Land tax returns at Preston.

¹⁹ Foley, *Recs. S. J.* iv, 713; he had a nephew Thomas, also a Jesuit. A list of his works is given by Gillow, *Bibl. Dict. of Engl. Cath.* i, 34; v, 204 (pedigree erroneous). See also *Dict. Nat. Biog.* In 1630 Thomas Anderton of Horwich compounded by an annual fine of £8 for the two-thirds of his estate liable to sequestration for recusancy; Lucas, 'Warton' MS. (from Thoresby). Dorothy Walton compounded similarly by £2.

²⁰ G.E.C. *Complete Peerage*, viii, 156-8, referring to W. D. Pink in *Gen.* (old ser.), iv, 34-9, and to the *Hist. MSS. Com. Rep.* xiv, App. iv (Kenyon MSS.); see also *Local Glean. Lancs. and Ches.* ii, 14, 38. The co-heirs of the last of this line were his sisters—Helena wife of

Baxter Roscoe of Anglezarke in Bolton, and Elizabeth widow of John Shaw of Heath Charnock.

²¹ *Lancs. Inq. and Extents* (Rec. Soc.), ii, 185 n.

²² *Royalist Comp. Papers* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), iv, 121.

²³ *Ch. Gds.* (Chet. Soc.), 27; see also Raines, *Chuntries* (Chet. Soc.), 273, for the sale of two bells.

²⁴ Gastrell, *Notitia* (Chet. Soc.), ii, 41.

²⁵ Peter Mackinson; he was one of the Marian priests, having been ordained by Bishop Scott in 1558, on the title of Robert Barton of Smithills; *Ordination Bk.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), 101.

²⁶ There is no mention of Horwich in the list of the Kenyon MSS. or the *Clerical Sub.* (Rec. Soc.).

²⁷ *Commonw. Ch. Surv.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), 37. An allowance of £20 was made to him out of the tithes, and it was said that £100 had been subscribed 'by the well affected' of the chapel, but no interest had been received for five or six years from Richard Holt of Ashworth, who held the principal.

James Walton, ejected from Shaw Chapel in 1662, is said to have preached at Horwich in 1648; Nightingale, *Lancs. Nonconf.* iii, 99.

²⁸ Visit. P. at Chester.

£100 was given by the vicar of Deane and £100 by Lady Moyer, and in the following year £200 for the old chapel stock was recovered from the trustees by a decree of the Commissioners for Charitable Uses.²⁹

The old chapel was rebuilt in 1779,³⁰ and the new one having fallen into decay was taken down when the present church of the Holy Trinity was opened in 1831³¹ on an adjacent site. It is in the decorated Gothic style, with western tower. A separate ecclesiastical district was assigned to it in 1853.³² The patronage is vested in the vicar of Deane, and the income is £370 a year.

The following is a list of curates and vicars³³ :—

- oc. 1671. John Barton
- 1702. John Horobin, B.A. (Jesus College, Cambridge)
- 1720. Nathan Pierpoint, B.A.
- 1724. Robert Harvey, B.A.³⁴
- 1732. John Norcross, B.A.³⁵ (St. John's College, Cambridge)
- 1765. John Norcross, B.A.³⁶
- 1788. Samuel Johnson, M.A.³⁷ (Brasenose College, Oxford)
- 1826. David Hewitt, B.A. (Trinity College, Cambridge)
- 1853. Henry Septimus Pigot, M.A.³⁸ (Brasenose College, Oxford)
- 1901. George Henry St. Patrick Garrett³⁹
- 1908. Samuel Sheppard

A school church was erected in 1889, and enlarged in 1897; this was in 1902 replaced by St. Catherine's, a chapel of ease. St. Elizabeth's iron mission church was built in 1902.

Methodism was introduced into Horwich by a preacher from Bolton about the beginning of last century. A room in a mill at Wilderswood was used for a time; but a chapel was opened in or about 1810.⁴⁰ The Independent Methodist chapel in Lee Lane was built in 1867, the congregation having originated some years earlier in a gathering of teetotallers.⁴¹ The Primitive Methodists once had a chapel on Horwich Moor,⁴² and the Independent Methodists also have a place of worship.

A Baptist church was built in 1890.

A large proportion of the population refused to

conform at the Restoration, but nothing is known as to their ministers or organization,⁴³ until, as stated above, the chapel at Horwich came into their hands about the Revolution.⁴⁴ On being ejected in 1716 the Dissenters erected a meeting-house called the New Chapel; this was enlarged in 1805, and other alterations have been made more recently. It is now in the hands of the Congregationalists, though for a short period in the 18th century the ministers are said to have been Unitarian.⁴⁵ A second Congregational church, known as Horwich Lee Chapel, was erected in 1856, replacing one built in 1774.⁴⁶

A Unitarian church was erected in 1896.

The Roman Catholic church of Our Lady of the Rosary was built in 1886.

HEATON

Heton, 1302; Heyton, xvi cent.

This township is usually known as Heaton-under-Horwich to distinguish it from the other Heaton in the neighbourhood. It has an area of 1,743½ acres. The highest point, just over 1,000 ft., is in the north-west corner. The River Croal forms the southern boundary.

Two roads between Bolton and Horwich cross Heaton from east to west. The Lancashire and Yorkshire Company's railway from Bolton passes along the southern boundary, and has a station called Lostock Junction at the western end, where there is a junction of the Preston and Wigan branches.

The most thickly populated part of the township is the eastern end, it being a suburb of Bolton. In 1901 the population was returned with Halliwell.

Coal and slate-flags are found, but not in great abundance.

A School Board was formed in 1883.¹

The township was incorporated with the borough of Bolton in 1898.

Fifty-six hearths were liable to the tax in 1666; the largest house was that of Thomas Lomax, with five hearths.²

In the 12th century *HEATON*, *MANOR* assessed as one plough-land, appears to have been held in moieties by knight's service of

²⁹ *Notitia Cestr.* ii, 41-4. The letter of the vicar of Deane states that he had put a conformable clergyman into the chapel as soon as the Nonconformists had left; he allowed him the surplice fees and £2 besides, which with offerings gave an income of about £14. As to the chapel stock, he had witnesses to prove that the interest had been paid to 'episcopal conforming clergymen' in the reigns of Charles II and James II, and till some time after the Revolution.

Gastrell states that a curate was licensed to Horwich in 1702. There was one warden for the chapel, chosen by house row.

Lady Moyer was Rebecca daughter of Alderman Sir William Joliffe and wife of Sir Samuel Moyer of Pitsea Hall in Essex, who died in 1716; Canon Raines in Gastrell, loc. cit.

³⁰ See Hampson, *Horwich*, 55. A brief for collections was issued in 1777.

³¹ The building was assisted by a Parliamentary grant. Joseph Ridgway of Ridgmont, one of the principal land-

owners, contributed. An account of this family is given in Hampson, op. cit. 181-203.

³² *Lond. Gaz.* 10 Jan. 1854.

³³ Church Papers at Chester.

³⁴ Also curate of Westhoughton.

³⁵ R. F. Scott, *Admissions to St. John's College*, iii, 44, 311. John Norcross was also master of Rivington School.

³⁶ Son of the preceding; *ibid.* iii, 121, 565. Succeeded his father as master of Rivington School. An abstract of his will is given by Hampson, op. cit. 62.

³⁷ Foster, *Alumni Oxon.* For his father Henry see James Hall, *Nantwich*, 349.

³⁸ Son of a former incumbent of St. Helens.

³⁹ Formerly vicar of St. Paul's, Prince's Park, Liverpool.

⁴⁰ Hampson, *Horwich*, 98-102.

⁴¹ *Ibid.* 102. For a charity in connexion with this chapel see *Endowed Charities Rep.* (Deane) of 1903, p. 39.

⁴² Hampson, op. cit. 103.

⁴³ A preaching-place at the house of

Thomas Welsby was licensed in 1672, during the brief Indulgence; Nightingale, op. cit. iii, 99. Bishop Gastrell in 1717 recorded that half the small population were Dissenters; *Notitia*, ii, 41.

⁴⁴ In 1689 Horwich Chapel was already in the hands of the Nonconformists, and was so certified and recorded; *Hist. MSS. Com. Rep.* xiv, App. iv, 231.

⁴⁵ Nightingale, op. cit. iii, 98-110. The first minister ejected from the old chapel was John Walker, who is said to have received £100 a year from the government on account of his services at the rising of 1715. An account of the endowments and charities may be seen in the *Endowed Charities Rep.* (Deane) of 1903, pp. 33-6.

⁴⁶ Nightingale, op. cit. iii, 110-15. The erection of this second meeting-place is supposed to have been due to the Unitarianism of the older chapels at Horwich and Rivington. For endowment, &c., see *Endowed Charities Rep.* 39.

¹ *Lond. Gaz.* 26 Oct. 1883.

² Subs. R. bdle. 250. no. 9, Lancs.

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the barons of Manchester. One moiety was included in the Barton fee,³ the Hulton family being the under-tenants;⁴ while the other half was held with Worthington,⁵ but afterwards severed, and held as the tenth part of a knight's fee by a family which assumed the local name.

The earliest known is a Randle de Heaton,⁶ followed in hereditary succession by Ellis, John, and John.⁷ The younger John made a settlement in 1332, from which it appears that he had sons John, Adam, and others.⁸ He or his son John was living in 1355.⁹ The son is said to have married a daughter and co-heir of Robert de Huyton of Billinge, and thus acquired the Birchley estate.¹⁰ Richard de Heaton was in 1385 appointed a keeper of the peace in Salford Hundred.¹¹ Richard's son and heir William married Joan daughter and heir of Gilbert de

Billinge,¹² and thus increased the family estate in Billinge. William and Joan were living in 1422,¹³ but for the succeeding century little is known of the family.^{13a} William Heaton was holding the manor in 1473 by the ancient service.¹⁴

The next to occur is Richard Heaton who recorded a pedigree in 1533, from which it appears that he had been twice married.¹⁵ William, his eldest son, left two daughters, Jane and Alice; and by his second wife Elizabeth, daughter and eventual co-heir of Sir Richard Aughton of North Meols, he



HEATON of Heaton.
Argent on a bend engrailed sable three bulls' heads erased of the field.

³ *Inq. and Extents* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), i, 54. By 1241 the four oxgangs of land in Heaton seem to have become separated from Barton and held by Richard son of Christiana de Alreton; *Final Conc.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), i, 88.

⁴ From the later descent it is probable that the above Richard son of Christiana was the younger Richard de Hulton, who was quickly succeeded by his brothers William and David, the latter continuing the line. Thus in 1256 David de Hulton was holding half a plough-land in Heaton, in which his brother's widow was claiming dower; *Final Conc.* i, 122. In 1302 Richard de Hulton son of David was holding the tenth part of a fee in Heaton of Thomas Grelley; *Inq. and Extents*, i, 314. In 1324 Richard de Hulton was returned as holding half a plough-land in 'Davyd Heton' by a thegnage rent of 6s. 8d.; *Duchy of Lanc. Rentals and Surv.* 379, m. 13. In the later division of the Hulton lands this probably went to the families of Farnworth and Halliwell; and some part was obtained at a later time by the Hultons of Over Hulton. Thus William Hulton of Farnworth was in 1613 in possession of lands in Heaton; *Lancs. Inq. p.m.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), i, 266; and Randle Barton of Smithills, who died in 1611, also had lands in Heaton; *ibid.* i, 208.

⁵ *Inq. and Extents*, i, 54. Thomas de Worthington was holding half a knight's fee of Robert Grelley in 1212. In 1282 the manor was called Worthington, Coppull, and the appurtenances; *ibid.* 250. Later Worthington is called 'half a fee, except the tenth part', the tenth part being Heaton. It is unlikely that there was only one manor in Heaton and that it was held in succession by the Hultons and Heatons; for Richard de Hulton and John de Heaton are mentioned together in 1320, when, however, only the latter is stated to have held the tenth part of a fee, the former holding by the rent of a pair of spurs or 2d., and puture of the serjeants and foresters; *Mamecestre* (Chet. Soc.), 288, 290.

⁶ The Heaton family were perhaps the successors in title of Henry de Bolton, who in 1221 offered himself against Robert Grelley in a plea concerning the fixing of boundaries between Henry's lands in Heaton and Robert's in Horwich; *Cur. Reg. R.* 79, m. 24. Licence of deafforestation in Heaton was in 1225 granted by the king to Robert Grelley for Henry de Bolton; *Cal. Pat.* 1216-25, p. 576. By fine in 1227 Robert Grelley acknowledged Henry's

right to land within the following boundaries: from Yaresworth Brook up by Ridley Syke to the middle point between two brooks falling into the syke towards the west, and so up between the brooks to the great road between Halliwell and Rivington, and to the High Edge, then by the Edge around Helmshead to the boundary of Halliwell; *Yorks. Feet of F.* file 18, no. 1.

Randle de Bolton was plaintiff in 1246 respecting lands in Heaton; *Assize R.* 404, m. 10d.

⁷ In 1278 Adam son of Richard de Heaton was non-suited in a claim for common of pasture brought against Ellis son of Randle de Heaton; *ibid.* 1238, m. 31 d. Ellis de Heaton appears as plaintiff in 1292, alleging that Randle his father was disseised of two parts of 4 acres of wood and 3 acres of pasture in Heaton by one Roger de Pendlebury, who demised them to William de Pendlebury, from whom they appear to have been acquired by Richard son of David de Hulton; *ibid.* 408, m. 49. He made a similar claim against Hugh de Halliwell (*ibid.*), but failed in both cases.

In 1301 John son of Ellis de Heaton was defendant in a claim made by John del Shaw for reasonable estovers in Heaton, without view of the foresters, for housebote and heybote; *ibid.* 1321, m. 9 d.

According to the surveys of 1320 and 1322 John de Heaton owed homage and fealty for the tenth part of a fee in Heaton under the Forest, and rendered yearly for sake fee 8d. and for ward of Lancaster Castle 12d., and puture of the serjeants and foresters; *Mamecestre*, 288, 379.

At that time four oxgangs in Heaton contributed proportionally to the maintenance of the foresters of Horwich; *ibid.* 376, 377.

⁸ *Final Conc.* ii, 89. The children of John son of John de Heaton named in the remainders are John, Adam, Roger, Robert, Richard, Joan, and Agnes. The estate was the 'manor' of Heaton-under-Horwich; no other estate there seems to have been so described.

In 1362 Richard Langtree and Margaret his wife brought a suit against Henry son of Adam de Heaton for waste, &c., in Heaton by Horwich; *De Banco R.* 411, m. 217 d.

⁹ Hugh de Worthington and John de Heaton held of John La Warre half a knight's fee in Worthington and Heaton-under-Horwich, which William de Worthington formerly held; *Feud. Aids*, iii, 89.

¹⁰ There does not seem to be any direct

proof of this marriage, but it agrees with the descent of the estate.

Thomas son of Roger Banastre of Wrightington in or before 1361 married Aline daughter of John de Heaton; John was a witness to the grant of lands then made; Piccoppe's MSS. iii, 2 (communicated by Mr. J. H. Partington).

¹¹ *Dep. Keeper's Rep.* xl, App. 523. Richard de Heaton and Isolda his wife held a fourth part of Billinge in 1374; *De Banco R.* 454, m. 141.

¹² *Raines MSS.* xxxvii B, 61. Dis-pensation granted in 1398.

¹³ *Final Conc.* iii, 81.

^{13a} A petition addressed to the Lord Chancellor in 1440 seems to refer to this family. In it Richard Barton of Middleton alleged that he had purchased the marriage of William son of Richard son of William Heaton, intending to wed him to his daughter Agnes. The younger William, under fourteen years of age, had been hidden away by Alexander Standish and his sister Isolda Heaton, who desired to procure a divorce between him and Agnes; *Early Chan. Proc. bdle.* 9, no. 204.

Richard is described as 'the heir of Heaton' in a document of 1461 relating to a corrody in the priory of Marrick on Swale, granted by Richard to his cousins William and Oliver Entwistle successively, and then by William son of Richard Heaton to his uncle Robert Heaton; *Ch. Gds.* (Chet. Soc.), 29 (from the Weld Blundell D.).

¹⁴ *Mamecestre*, 480. It was held by 'the service of the tenth part of a knight's fee and puture, and the rent of 8d. a year, with 12d. for ward of the castle.'

Katherine daughter of William Heaton married Henry son of Nicholas Blundell of Little Crosby in 1488-9; *Kuerden*, iii, C, 34, no. 580.

¹⁵ *Visit.* of 1533 (Chet. Soc.), p. 194; the arms seem to be those of Billinge and Heaton quarterly.

In 1530 Richard Heaton of Heaton gave to feoffees his manor of Billinge with lands, &c., in Billinge, Birchley, Rumworth, Lostock, and Ulverston. His will mentions his son William and Joan his wife and their children Alice and Jane; *Pal. of Lanc. Plea R.* 151, m. 8. He died after the Statute of Uses (1536), and his will was held to be void; *Duchy of Lanc. Dep.* xxxiv, G, 1a.

For pleadings regarding the woods in Horwich, between two of the younger sons, Richard and Bryan, see *Duchy Plead.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), i, 119; ii, 219; the former seems to be wrongly dated.

had no issue.¹⁶ He died in 1542, when family disputes, which had already begun, were continued with energy. Miles Gerard of Ince, who had married William's daughter Jane, claimed the manors of Heaton and Birchley, Alice, the other daughter, having died without issue.¹⁷ The manors, however, passed to the heir male, William Heaton son of Ralph, half-brother of the William named above. A settlement was made in 1552,¹⁸ but the new owner appears very soon to have fallen into difficulties and mortgaged his possessions.¹⁹

Christopher Anderton, said to be descended from the lords of Anderton, obtained an interest in the matter. In 1562 he purchased the adjoining manor of Lostock, with lands in Rumworth and Heaton,²⁰ but it was not till 1572 that he actually obtained the manor of Heaton, and many years more elapsed before his estate was secure.²¹ It is stated that the mortgage money was offered to him by the Heatons just after the expiry of the term, and, to the great scandal of the neighbours, he refused it and kept the manors.²² Heaton descended in the same way as Lostock to the Blundells of Ince. Henry Blundell, who died in 1810, annoyed that his only son refused

to marry, bequeathed the Anderton properties to his two daughters. A division took place, and the manor of Heaton, with lands in Heaton and Rumworth, fell to the share of Elizabeth wife of Stephen Tempest of Broughton near Skipton. By a family arrangement Henry Tempest, a younger son, received this moiety, and his son Charles Robert, on being created a baronet in 1866, gave Heaton as his seat.²³ Sir Charles died in 1894, leaving a daughter, Mary Ethel, as heir; she married Miles Stapleton, tenth Lord Beaumont, who was accidentally killed in 1895, and has two daughters.

In 1789 the lands of Henry Blundell paid five-sixths of the land tax. Mr. Starkie had a small estate.²⁴

From the old Heaton family descended Martin Heaton, Bishop of Ely from 1599 to 1609.²⁵

In the Subsidy Rolls of 1541 and 1622 Heaton is joined with Halliwell.

The estate called *ROGERSTEAD* can be traced back to the time of Edward III.^{25a} It was held early in the 15th century by Roger de 'Walmersley,'^{25b} and descended by 1591 to Roger 'Walmesley.'²⁶ In 1726 it was sold by Roger Walmsley of Bolton to Pierce

¹⁶ Duchy of Lanc. Dep. liv, H, 1; it was alleged that the feoffees of Richard Heaton the father of William in 1532 conveyed the manor of Heaton, with mill and messuages in Heaton and Horwich, to the use of Richard for life, and then to the use of William his son and heir for life, and then of Ralph Heaton and heirs male. (This feoffment is among the Anderton D. no. 4.) On behalf of Elizabeth daughter of Sir Richard Aughton, widow of William Heaton, and before 1549 remarried to John Bold, it was stated that William was seised in his demesne as of fee, and therefore she claimed as jointure.

¹⁷ Ibid. xxxiv, G, 1. Miles Gerard son and heir of Thomas Gerard of Ince alleged that by his marriage settlement it was arranged that if William Heaton died without male issue one half of all the manors, &c., in Billinge, Birchley, Rumworth, Lostock, Horwich, and Ulverston, was to go to the said Jane; and if Alice, the other daughter of William Heaton, should die without issue, the other half should also be Jane's. Heaton was otherwise settled. The disputes began before William's death, which took place on 25 November 1542, for his answer to some of the pleadings is preserved. His widow Elizabeth immediately after his death complained that the Gerards had expelled her from Birchley.

Humphrey Winstanley, who had married Jane, in 1560 complained that Christopher Anderton, William Heaton, and Ralph Heaton had entered his wife's inheritance. William Heaton claimed as heir male, under a settlement made in 1540 by William the father of Jane, apparently on his marriage with Elizabeth Aughton; Duchy of Lanc. Plead. xlviii, W, 13.

¹⁸ Pal. of Lanc. Feet of F. bde. 14, m. 142; and ibid. m. 103. The deforciant in the latter were John Bold and Elizabeth his wife, William Heaton, and Lambert Heaton. The fine concerned two messuages, &c., 60 acres of land, with meadow, pasture, wood, moor, and moss in Heaton. An annuity of 54s. for life was granted to Elizabeth Bold, with ultimate reversion to William Heaton; the messuages, &c., being given

to Lambert Heaton and Katherine his wife and their male issue; in default to Fernando Heaton and Richard, Geoffrey, Bryan, and Vane Heaton.

¹⁹ Gibson, *Lydiat Hall*, 50.

In 1560 Roger Heaton as son and devisee of Richard Heaton, one of the younger sons of the Richard Heaton of 1533, claimed the manor of Heaton against William Heaton and Mary his wife by virtue of a lease; and later Alice the mother of Roger, who had married Thomas Aughton, was joined in the suit; Duchy of Lanc. Plead. lxi, H, 9a; cxvii, H, 16. William Heaton was plaintiff or defendant in other suits in the early part of Elizabeth's reign; *Ducatus*, ii, 243, 311, 323, 363. Ralph the son and heir of William Heaton of Birchley occurs several times from 1568 to 1574; ibid. ii, 363; iii, 13.

William Heaton, merchant tailor of London, of the parish of St. Martin Orgar, acquired an interest, by purchase or mortgage, from the above William Heaton, in the lands and manor of Heaton; Pal. of Lanc. Feet of F. bdes. 24, m. 158; 27, m. 145; Duchy of Lanc. Plead. lxiii, H, 9; Anderton D. no. 20, 24, 35.

²⁰ Pal. of Lanc. Feet of F. bde. 24, m. 96; and further in the account of Lostock.

²¹ *Lydiat Hall*, 55.

As early as 1572 an agreement was made for the sale of the manors and lands between Christopher Anderton, William Heaton of London, and Ralph son and heir of William Heaton; Pal. of Lanc. Plea R. 232, m. 5. Two years afterwards Christopher Anderton procured Heaton from Humphrey Winstanley and Jane his wife and William Gerard—probably only their reversionary rights in it; Pal. of Lanc. Feet of F. bde. 38, m. 80. In 1583 he made a settlement of the manor; ibid. bde. 45, m. 25; while in 1589 he and his sons James and Thurstan seem to have made a further agreement or new purchase; ibid. bde. 51, no. 25.

Christopher Anderton died in 1592, holding the manor of Heaton under Horwich, &c., of the lord of Manchester; Duchy of Lanc. Inq. p.m. xvi, no. 41. The bargain, however, was not even then

secure, for three years later his son and heir, James Anderton, procured the manor (or reversionary rights in it), from Richard the son and heir apparent of Fernando Heaton, late of London; Pal. of Lanc. Feet of F. bde. 59, m. 17. Besides the manor the estate embraced eighty messuages, two water-mills, &c.

Katherine widow of Lambert Heaton and Fernando their son surrendered land in Heaton in 1581; in 1593 Richard Heaton son of Fernando, described as 'of Alone in Westmeath,' sold his claim on the manors to James Anderton; Anderton D. no. 43, 67, 68.

²² Harland and Wilkinson, *Lancs. Legends*, 44; some evidence in its favour is printed in *Lydiat Hall*, 56.

²³ *Lydiat Hall*, 134, 135. In Baines' *Dir.* of 1825, 'Henry Tempest, coal proprietor, of Broughton Hall, Yorkshire,' occurs under Heaton.

²⁴ Land Tax Ret. at Preston.

²⁵ He was the son of George Heaton, of London, whose kinship to the parent stock has not been ascertained. His mother Joan daughter of Sir Martin Bowes, lord mayor in 1545, died in giving him birth, having dedicated him 'to God and the Reformed Church.' He was educated at Westminster and Oxford, held various preferments, and was in 1599 promoted to the see of Ely in order to make certain alienations of its lands. He was the 'proud prelate' whom Elizabeth threatened to 'unfrock,' according to the story. He made the alienations; see *Local Glean. Lancs. and Ches.* ii, 171 (from Strype's *Annals*, iv, 490); Foster, *Alumni*; White, *Elizabethan Bishops*, 401; Cooper, *Athen. Cantab.* i, 442.

^{25a} In 1364 Hugh Thirlwinde and Katherine his wife, daughter of Alice daughter of Stephen de Cockerham, mortgaged a tenement in Heaton; Starkie of Huntroyde D.

^{25b} He had it in 1419, when it was called Rogersted; ibid.

²⁶ See *Lancs. Inq. p.m.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), i, 16, &c. Roger Walmesley died 31 May 1624 holding two messuages, &c., in Heaton of Christopher Anderton; Towneley MS. C, 8, 13 (Chet. Lib.), p. 1287.

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Starkie of Huntroyde.²⁷ It has now become a cemetery belonging to the Bolton Corporation.

For the worship of the Established Church Christ Church was consecrated in 1896; the vicar of Deane is the patron.

HALLIWELL

Haliwell, 1246; Harywal, 1273; Halewell, Haliwelle, 1277-8.

Halliwell is divided into two portions by a brook which runs east into the Tonge; the southern portion, Halliwell proper, adjoins Bolton, of which it is becoming a suburb; the north-western, Smithills, is still rural. The whole has an area of 2,479½ acres.¹ Halliwell proper has a breadth of about two miles; the surface rises a little from east to west. Smithills stretches about three miles in a north-westerly direction, rising steadily from under 500 ft. to over 1,475, on the border of Horwich. To the north of Deane Brook, almost to the limit of the township towards Bolton, the geological formation consists of the Millstone Grit. The town of Halliwell and Smithills Hall lie upon the Lower Coal Measures.

The principal road is that from Bolton to Horwich and Chorley, on both sides of which dwelling-houses are spreading; another road leads more northerly through the Smithills portion.

The population in 1901 was 25,849, but this includes Heaton also.

Halliwell has for a century been famous for its bleach works; there are also cotton mills.

A local board was formed in 1863.² In 1877 part of the township was taken into the borough of Bolton. In 1894 a separate civil parish was formed for Smithills, but four years later this also was absorbed.

Tokens issued in 1652 and 1666 are extant.³

In the latter year seventy-five hearths were assessed to the tax; the manor-house at Smithills (Sir Rowland Bellasyse) had nineteen hearths, but no other dwelling had more than four.⁴

The manor of *HALLIWELL* was *MANORS* originally a member of the lordship of Barton,⁵ and seems at first to have been part of the possessions of the Pendlebury family.⁶ William son of Roger de Pendlebury in 1289 granted to Richard son and heir of David de Hulton the whole vill of Halliwell with its appurtenances, with the homages of Robert de Shoresworth and Hugh de Halliwell for the lands they held; an annual rent of a silver penny was payable.⁷ In 1302 it was held by Richard de Hulton of the lord of Manchester by the tenth part of a knight's fee.⁸ Three oxgangs of land here contributed to the sustenance of the foresters of Horwich.⁹ In 1325-6 Richard de Hulton granted to his brother John land in Hulton and Westhoughton,¹⁰ and this is supposed to be the John de Hulton of Halliwell, whose son and heir Richard was in 1351 contracted to marry Margery daughter of Adam the Ward of Sharples.¹¹ Nothing further is known of this branch of the Hulton family, but in 1473 Robert Hulton held the lordship of Halliwell by the ancient service.¹² Adhering to the Yorkist side his lands were confiscated in 1487 and conferred by Henry VII on the Earl of Derby.¹³ The manor descended regularly for a century; in 1601 it was held by Edward Stanley.¹⁴ About that time it seems to have been sold, part going to Robert Marsh of Halliwell,¹⁵ whose son-in-law Samuel Shipton, clerk, was in possession in 1638;¹⁶ afterwards it descended to Samuel Aspinall,¹⁷ and then disappears from notice.¹⁸

SMITHILLS was held by the Hospitallers, and

²⁷ Huntroyde D.; Pal. of Lanc. Feet of F. bdlc. 295, m. 89. It descended with Huntroyde till 1879, when it was sold to the Bolton Corporation.

¹ The Census Report of 1901 gives the area of Halliwell (with Heaton) as 4,229 acres, including 124 of inland water.

² *Lond. Gaz.* 27 Nov. 1863.

³ *Lancs. and Ches. Antiq. Soc.* v, 78; William Boardman issued one.

⁴ Subs. R. bdlc. 250, no. 9, Lancs.

⁵ *Lancs. Inq. and Extents* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), i, 54.

⁶ Roger de Pendlebury in 1246 recovered seisin of lands in Halliwell against Randle de Bolton, Mabel widow of Henry de Bolton, Adam de Heaton, Robert and Matthew his brothers, and others; Assize R. 404, m. 1.

Amabel widow of Elias son of Roger the Clerk was in 1273 petitioner respecting lands in Pendlebury and Halliwell Roger de Pendlebury being defendant; De Banco R. 5, m. 102.

⁷ Towneley MS. GG, no. 1808. In 1303 Alice widow of William de Pendlebury claimed dower in nineteen messuages, 180 acres of land, &c., against Margery widow of Richard de Hulton, and against Roger and William, sons of Richard; De Banco R. 164, m. 206.

⁸ *Lancs. Inq. and Extents*, i, 314.

⁹ *Mamecestre* (Chet. Soc.), 377.

¹⁰ *Hulton Pedigree*, 5.

¹¹ *Ibid.*; three parcels of land, called Farnegoy, Rethfield, and Broxope in Halliwell, were granted to Richard and Margery and their issue, with remainder to Richard's brother Roger.

¹² *Mamecestre*, 480; the service was the tenth part of a knight's fee, pature, a rent of 8d., and 8d. for ward of the castle.

¹³ Robert Hulton had taken part in the Simnel rising, and was attainted after the battle of Stoke; *Rolls of Parl.* vi, 397. Early in 1489 his manors of Halliwell and Smithills and various lands were granted to the Earl of Derby; Pat 4 Hen. VII, 25 Feb.

¹⁴ Pal. of Lanc. Feet of F. bdlc. 63, no. 281. William, Earl of Derby, and Edward Stanley, esq., were the deforciant, the property being described as the manor of Halliwell, with twenty messuages, &c., 300 acres of land, &c., and 2s. rent in Halliwell and Smithills.

¹⁵ The plaintiffs in the fine were the feoffees of Robert Marsh. He died in 1624 holding lands in Atherton of Thomas Ireland and the reversion of a messuage, 40 acres of land, &c., in Halliwell after the death of Alice, Countess of Derby, widow of the fifth earl, held of the king as the hundredth part of a knight's fee; Duchy of Lanc. Inq. p.m. xxv, no. 14.

A rent of £13 9s. 6d. continued to be payable from the manor of Halliwell to the Earl of Derby, and in 1653 it was sold, together with the manor of Bolton, as part of the confiscated estates of the seventh earl, to Charles Worsley; *Royalist Comp. Papers* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), ii, 240. This rent was recovered, and in 1715 formed part of the estate of the Derby family; Pal. of Lanc. Feet of F. bdlc. 276, m. 75.

¹⁶ *Ibid.* bdlc. 129, no. 13; the manor of

Halliwell and land, &c., there and in Atherton were held by Samuel Shipton, clerk, and Abigail his wife, daughter and heir of Robert Marsh. An inquiry respecting it was made in 1641, after the death of Abigail, when her estate was described as three-twentieths of the manor, held of the Earl of Derby by a rent of 33s. 3d.; Duchy of Lanc. Inq. p.m. xxix, no. 69.

Samuel Shipton, M.A., of Brasenose College, Oxford, was rector of Alderley, Cheshire, from 1630 to 1643, when he was ejected as a Royalist; he was reinstated in 1660 and held this benefice till his death in 1670. He recorded a pedigree in 1663. Abigail, his first wife, was born in 1614 and died in 1640, and bore a son and three daughters, who all died young. Shortly afterwards the husband married again; *Earwaker, East Ches.* ii, 633, 634.

¹⁷ According to the Inq. p.m. of 1641 Abigail Shipton's heir was her aunt Margaret's son, Samuel Aspinall, who received the manor of Halliwell and lands there and in Atherton in 1651 from Samuel Shipton and Elizabeth his (second) wife, and Sir Henry Delves, bart., and Roger Wilbraham, junior, these being probably trustees; Pal. of Lanc. Feet of F. bdlc. 147, m. 135.

¹⁸ A fine of 1747 concerning lands in Halliwell, Wigan, &c., also included the chief rents of the township; the deforciant was Edward Hurst, John Rothwell and Margaret his wife, William Battersby and Jane his wife; while the plaintiffs were Richard Rothwell and Thomas Marsh; *ibid.* bdlc. 339, m. 93.

appears to have been held under them by the Hulton family, passing with the manor of Blackburn to the Radcliffes in 1335.¹⁹ The Radcliffes of Smithills occur during the 15th century, having made the place their chief manor.²⁰ Sir Ralph Radcliffe, the third of the same name in succession, dying about 1460,²¹ the estates went to the heir male, Ralph son of Sir Ralph's brother Edmund; and he leaving a daughter and heir Cecily, they passed to her husband John Barton of Holme, near Newark,²² and they and their descendants retained possession until the 18th century.

¹⁹ This seems the most probable account of the matter, as Smithills and Blackburn afterwards descended together, but there are no charters concerning Smithills available, and it may, of course, have been held by the Radcliffes under the Hospitallers.

²⁰ Some family deeds, relating chiefly to the manor of Oswaldtwistle, are preserved in Towneley MS. OO, no. 1645-76. See also Abram, *Blackburn*, 251-5.

²¹ The first Sir Ralph was knight of the shire in 1397 and 1404; Pink and Beaven, *Parl. Repre. of Lancs.* 44, 46. The writ of *Diem clausit extr.* after his death was issued 12 May 1406; *Dep. Keeper's Rep.* xxxiii, App. 5. Ralph his son had livery soon afterwards; Abram, *op. cit.* 251. He was knighted by the Duke of Bedford at Leicester in 1426; Metcalfe, *Bk. of Knights*, 1.

Sir Ralph Radcliffe II was a knight of the shire in 1413, 1423, and 1427; Pink and Beaven, *op. cit.* 49, 52, 53. In 1424 Ralph son of Sir Ralph Radcliffe made a feoffment of lands in Salford, &c., in which his brother George, rector of Houghton, is named; Towneley MS. OO, no. 1656. This was in connexion with the proposed marriage of his son Ralph with Ellen daughter of John Massey of Tatton, as appears by the above-cited inquisition, in which is also given a settlement of 1431 in favour of Cecily, Sir Ralph's second wife. There are named her son Edmund Radcliffe, and daughters Emma and Douce. Sir Ralph's brother Nicholas is named among the remainders. He died in Jan. 1432-3, but Smithills is not named in the inquisition after his death, though Ralph, his son and heir, then twenty-nine years of age, is described as 'of Smithills'; *Lancs. Inq. p.m.* (Chet. Soc.), ii, 34-6.

In the same year (1433) the feoffees delivered to Ralph son of Sir Ralph Radcliffe the manor of Smithills, and lands in Much Hoole, Croston, Leyland, Ulnes Walton, Edgeworth, Bradshaw, Turton, Halliwell, Egburden, Sharples, Harwood, Bolton, Blackburn, Flixton, Lostock, Tonge, &c.; Towneley MS. OO, no. 1658. The escheator also was ordered to deliver lands to Ralph Radcliffe of Smithills, son and heir of Ralph son and heir of Sir Ralph, and Ellen his wife, daughter of John Massey of Tatton; *Dep. Keeper's Rep.* xxxiii, App. 34. Two years later Cecily widow of Sir Ralph de Radcliffe was indicted for felony; *ibid.* 35. In 1436 Ralph Radcliffe granted to feoffees various lands, with the reversion of the lands in Heaton and Horwich, which Cecily widow of Sir Ralph had held in dower. This was for the benefit of his wife Janet, and there were a remainder to Edmund his brother and a dowry of 80 marks for his sister Katherine. Ed-

mund was still a minor; Towneley MS. OO, no. 1657.

The third Sir Ralph left a daughter and heir Joan and a widow Katherine; and disputes quickly arose between them and Elizabeth widow of Edmund Radcliffe and Ralph son of Edmund, the heir male; OO, no. 1645, 1646. The date of the former of these (29 Hen. VI) is uncertain; perhaps it should be 39, for it quotes deeds of 37 Hen. VI. The writ of *Diem clausit extr.* was issued 4 Aug. 1460; *Dep. Keeper's Rep.* xxxvii, App. 177.

The daughter Joan is said to have married Ralph Barton of Holme.

²² Ralph Radcliffe died in Oct. 1485, his daughter Cecily being then twelve years of age; she was immediately married to John Barton. At the inquisition taken in 1506 it was found that Ralph Radcliffe had held the manor of Tingreave and various lands, but of whom the lands in Smithills, Heaton, and Halliwell were held the jury did not know. In 1475, as Ralph son and heir of Edmund Radcliffe, he had granted the manor of Smithills and all his lands in Lancashire to feoffees, and by his will directed them to make an estate to Agnes his wife of specified lands in Flixton and Lostock; to others he granted the mill of Smithills, the park, and a close called Crostliff, with lands elsewhere. Provision was made for Ellen, Ralph's sister; also for Elizabeth daughter of Sir Ralph Radcliffe; and 7 marks a year was to be paid 'to an honest priest to celebrate divine service in the church of Bolton.' Denis Haworth was the priest chosen, and he prayed for twenty years in Bolton Church for the said Ralph and his ancestors.

As heir male of the Radcliffes Nicholas Radcliffe of Worsley in 1498-9 sought to regain the manors of Smithills and Tingreave against John Barton and Cecily his wife. He was son and heir of Ralph son and heir of the Nicholas Radcliffe named in the inquisition of his brother Sir Ralph in 1433; and claimed under a settlement by which Oliver and Nicholas, the brothers of Sir Ralph, should have succeeded in tail male; *Pal. of Lanc. Writs Prot.* 14 Hen. VII; *Ducatus Lanc.* (Rec. Com.), ii, 34.

A change of feoffees was made in 1503, the manor of Smithills being then held for the use of John Barton and Cecily his wife; Towneley MS. OO, no. 1647. In 1504 there was a recovery of the manor, John Barton and Cecily being tenants; *Duchy of Lanc. Inq. p.m.* iii, no. 12, 97.

John Barton was son of the above-named Ralph Barton and Joan; see *Visit.* of 1533 (Chet. Soc.), 198, where is an account of the origin of the family, from Thoroton, *Notts.* (ed. Throsby), iii, 157.

²³ *Duchy of Lanc. Inq. p.m.* iv, 82.

John Barton, having made a settlement of his manors and lands in 1514, and seen his son Andrew married to Anne or Agnes daughter of Sir William Stanley of Hooton, renounced the world, and in July 1516 entered the monastery of the Observant Friars at Richmond in Surrey, and was there professed.²³ Andrew Barton added a moiety of the manor of Oswaldtwistle²⁴ to the family possessions, recorded a pedigree at the visitation of 1533,^{24a} and died in 1549, leaving a son and heir Robert, then twenty-four years of age.²⁵ Robert Barton, who succeeded, was the justice to whom George Marsh surrendered

The manor of Smithills and lands there and in the neighbourhood were stated to be held of Thomas West, Lord La Warre, but the services were unknown. Andrew Barton, the heir, was aged eighteen. The father's will is very lengthy; it provides that Smithills shall be given to his son Andrew on attaining his majority, with remainders to his younger sons Alexander, Leonard, and Francis; then to the heirs of Sir Ralph Radcliffe his grandfather. His brother, Stephen Barton, had an annuity of £4 to enable him to study at Cambridge or the Inns of Court. James Bolton, priest, was to have 7 marks a year, 'provided that he say divine service in the chapel of the manor of Smithills and pray for me, for the soul of Cecily sometime my wife and for the souls of all our ancestors,' and execute other duties assigned to him by the testator. By a later deed he gave £10 to Nicholas Clerk, priest, to study art or divinity at Cambridge or teach grammar at Bolton-le-Moors; money to the repairs of the Friars Preachers' house at Lancaster; to Bolton and Deane churches money for paxes, altar cloths, &c., 'so that the most high and excellent sacrament of the altar may be more reverently ministered there;' money to his brothers Stephen and Christopher, his sister Elizabeth Ardern, and his bastard brother John Barton; lastly he willed 'that a table of alabaster be bought and given to the chapel of Our Lady in the church of Holme, and that the table now being there be restored to the chapel of Smithills; the said chapel in Holme to be repaired and necessary ornaments to be given to the same.'

²⁴ In 1547 a general pardon was granted to Andrew Barton of Deane and of the Inner Temple; *Various Coll.* (Hist. MSS. Com.), ii, 2.

^{24a} *Visit.* (Chet. Soc.), 197.

²⁵ *Duchy of Lanc. Inq. p.m.* ix, no. 27; he had held the manor of Smithills and lands there of the king, as of the late Prior of St. John of Jerusalem, in socage by a rent of 12d. He was a commissioner for levying the subsidy of 1541; *Misc.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), i, 141. His will with an inventory is printed in *Picope's Wills* (Chet. Soc.), ii, 98-103. He desired to be buried in Bolton Church; left £5 a year for the free school at Winwick, 12 marks to his chaplain, John Pincock, and £10 a year for some years to Ralph Barton (a younger son) 'towards his exhibition and learning.' Certain plate was given to his son Robert as an heirloom, and 'all the chapel gear except one suit of vestments, the best but one.'

Various deeds of Andrew Barton's, 1538 to 1548, relating to Blackburn, are preserved in Towneley MS. OO, no. 1648, 1652, 1674-8.

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in 1554; the story went that Marsh, in his emphatic denial that his teaching was heretical, stamped so forcibly on the hall pavement at Smithills that the mark of his foot remained in the stone.²⁶ Robert Barton dying childless in 1580,²⁷ the manors went to his brother Ralph, reader in Gray's Inn. Ralph, who died in 1592,²⁸ was succeeded by his son Randle²⁹ and grandson Sir Thomas.³⁰

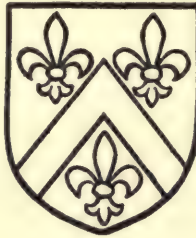
Grace, the daughter and heir of Sir Thomas, married Henry Belasyse son of Thomas, first Viscount

Viscount and first Earl Fauconberg, who died without issue in 1700;³¹ and Sir Rowland Belasyse, who seems to have resided at Smithills,³² and whose son Thomas in 1700 succeeded his uncle as third viscount.³⁴ Thomas, his son, the fourth viscount, sold Smithills in 1722 to the Byroms of Manchester.³⁵ About a hundred years later it was purchased by Richard Ainsworth, owner of extensive bleach works in the neighbourhood,³⁶ and has descended to his grandson, Colonel Richard Henry Ainsworth, the present owner.

Smithills Hall stands on high ground 2 miles north-west of Bolton, on the slopes of the moors from which the town takes its name which, less than 2 miles away, attain a height of over 1,200 ft. The hall itself is situated just above the 500 ft. contour line, well outside the town radius, protected by trees on the north and set in picturesque grounds, but with a view southwards from the house embracing the smoke and chimneys of Bolton. The site is a naturally defensive one, being close to the junction of two streams, one the Astley Brook, a quarter of a mile to the south, and the other the Raveden Brook, more immediately to the east.³⁷ The other sides were protected by a moat which existed at no very remote period, and the moors behind the house would form a natural protection in that direction.



BARTON. *Azure a fesse between three harts' heads caboshed or.*



BELASYSE, Viscount Fauconberg. *Argent a chevron gules between three fleurs de lis azure.*

Fauconberg.³¹ Henry died during his father's lifetime, leaving among others two sons, Thomas, second

²⁶ The story is given in Fuller's *Worthies*.

²⁷ Duchy of Lanc. Inq. p.m. xiv, no. 24; the estates were unchanged. Ralph Barton, brother and heir, was fifty-seven years of age. A settlement was made in 1565; Pal. of Lanc. Feet of F. bdl. 27, m. 100. A pedigree was recorded in 1567; *Visit.* (Chet. Soc.), 21. Robert's will is printed in *Wills* (Chet. Soc. new ser.), i, 39-42; Margery, his wife, was the executrix; she afterwards married Richard Shuttleworth of Gray's Inn; Towneley MS. OO, no. 1654-6; *Ducatus* (Rec. Com.), iii, 118, 139. Some deeds by Robert Barton and Thurstan his brother are in Towneley MS. OO, no. 1649-51, 1653, 1674-6.

For the muster of 1574 Robert Barton was required to equip two light horses, &c., being third on the list of gentry of the hundred; Gregson, *Fragments*, 30.

²⁸ Duchy of Lanc. Inq. p.m. xvii, 50.

²⁹ *Lancs. Inq. p.m.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), i, 207-12. Randle Barton died at Smithills 10 Dec. 1611. By an indenture of 1607 there given, he settled the capital messuage called Smithills, the lands, meadows, &c., in Heaton, Halliwell, and Sharples, known as the demesne lands of Smithills, the water-mill in Halliwell called Smithills mill, and all pools, waters, water-courses, multure, toll, and suit there-to belonging; certain messuages and lands in Halliwell and Horwich, the coal-mines found or to be found in the said tenements, &c., to the use of himself and Elizabeth his wife for life, for jointure of Elizabeth, and then to the use of Thomas Barton for life and heirs male. The tenure is stated as above—of the king, as of the late priory of St. John of Jerusalem, by 12d. rent; the clear annual value was £10.

Thomas Barton the son and heir was twenty-eight years of age.

For an Edward Barton who died in 1598 near Constantinople, see *Pal. Note Bk.* ii, 82.

³⁰ Sir Thomas was knighted in 1619; Metcalfe, *Knights*, 176. He was one of the commissioners for the subsidy of

1622; *Misc.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), i, 161. He made a settlement in 1627, probably on his daughter's marriage; Pal. of Lanc. Feet of F. bdl. 111, no. 24. A further settlement was made in 1652, the deforciant being Sir Thomas Barton, Grace Belasyse, widow, and Thomas Belasyse; *ibid.* bdl. 152, m. 67. Sir Thomas does not appear to have taken any active part in the Civil War, being probably disabled by age, and his estates were not interfered with by the Parliament.

There is a pedigree of the family in Whitaker's *Whalley*, ii, 319, 320.

³¹ Henry Belasyse and his family were strong Royalists, and adherents of the ancient faith or favourable to it. Henry died in 1647; his epitaph is printed in Collins' *Peerage* (ed. 1779), v, 359. He had seven sons and seven daughters. His lands having been seized by the Parliamentary authorities, his widow Grace and her father in 1651 petitioned for the restoration of the manor of Oulston, the lease of which had been assigned to her on her marriage; *Cal. of Com. for Advances*, i, 421.

A meeting of Roman Catholic gentry at Smithills in 1666 led to a disturbance, the Bolton women being convinced that they were met to cut the Protestants' throats; *Hist. MSS. Com. Rep.* xii, App. vii, 41.

³² He was born in 1628. Though married to a daughter of Oliver Cromwell and a member of his House of Peers, he favoured the Restoration. He was put out of the lord lieutenancy of the North Riding by James II, and afterwards took part in the Revolution; in 1689 he was advanced to an earldom by William III; G.E.C. *Complete Peerage*, iii, 323.

A settlement of the manors of Smithills, Quarlton, &c., was made in 1679; Pal. of Lanc. Feet of F. bdl. 202, m. 4.

³³ Sir Rowland was made a Knight of the Bath at the coronation of Charles II. He died in 1699, and like his wife (heirress of Davenport of Sutton) was buried at Bolton; Earwaker, *East Chas.* ii, 442.

He professed the old religion; Gillow, *Bibl. Dict. of Engl. Cath.* i, 179.

³⁴ In 1717 as a 'papist' Thomas Lord Fauconberg registered an estate in the manors of Sharples, Quarlton, &c., subject to annuities to his brothers; *Engl. Cath. Nonjurors*, 113, 114, 149. He died in 1718.

³⁵ He was born in 1699; sold Smithills and other estates after coming of age; conformed to the Established religion in 1737, and was advanced to an earldom in 1756. He died in 1774; G.E.C. *ut sup.*; Abram, *Blackburn*, 255.

Some further particulars are given in the account of Pendleton, of which he had a moiety in right of his wife. The deed of sale is enrolled at Preston (Roll 8 of Geo. I), and recites that Thomas, Lord Fauconberg, had for £11,057 6s. sold to Thomas Eyre of Stockport and Thomas Foxley of Manchester his manors of Halliwell, with Smithills Hall and lands, Horwich (with lands there), Sharples and Quarlton; Piccop MSS. (Chet. Lib.), iii, 220. Joseph Byrom of Calford purchased Smithills in 1722 for £4,688; Raines, *Byrom Ped.* (Chet. Soc.), 38.

Edward Byrom in 1779 paid 2s. 6d. to the duchy for Smithills; Duchy of Lanc. Rentals, 14/25 m.

³⁶ Baines, *Lancs.* (ed. 1836), iii, 46; here it is stated that traditionally Smithills was dependent on Sharples, the service being a pair of spurs and the use of the cellars at Smithills by the lord of Sharples for a week in each year.

In 1749 the owner of Sharples Hall had a chief rent of 6s. 9d. issuing from Smithills Hall, and the demesne and other lands in Halliwell, then the inheritance of Edward Byrom of Manchester, mercer; *Bolton Hist. Glean.* ii, 188 (from Piccop MSS.). In Burke, *Landed Gentry*, is a pedigree of the Ainsworth family.

³⁷ The Astley Brook joins the Eagley Brook (above which is situated Hall-i'-th'-Wood) a little more than a mile east of Smithills, the two streams together forming the River Tonge.



HALLIWELL : SMITHILLS HALL : GARDEN FRONT

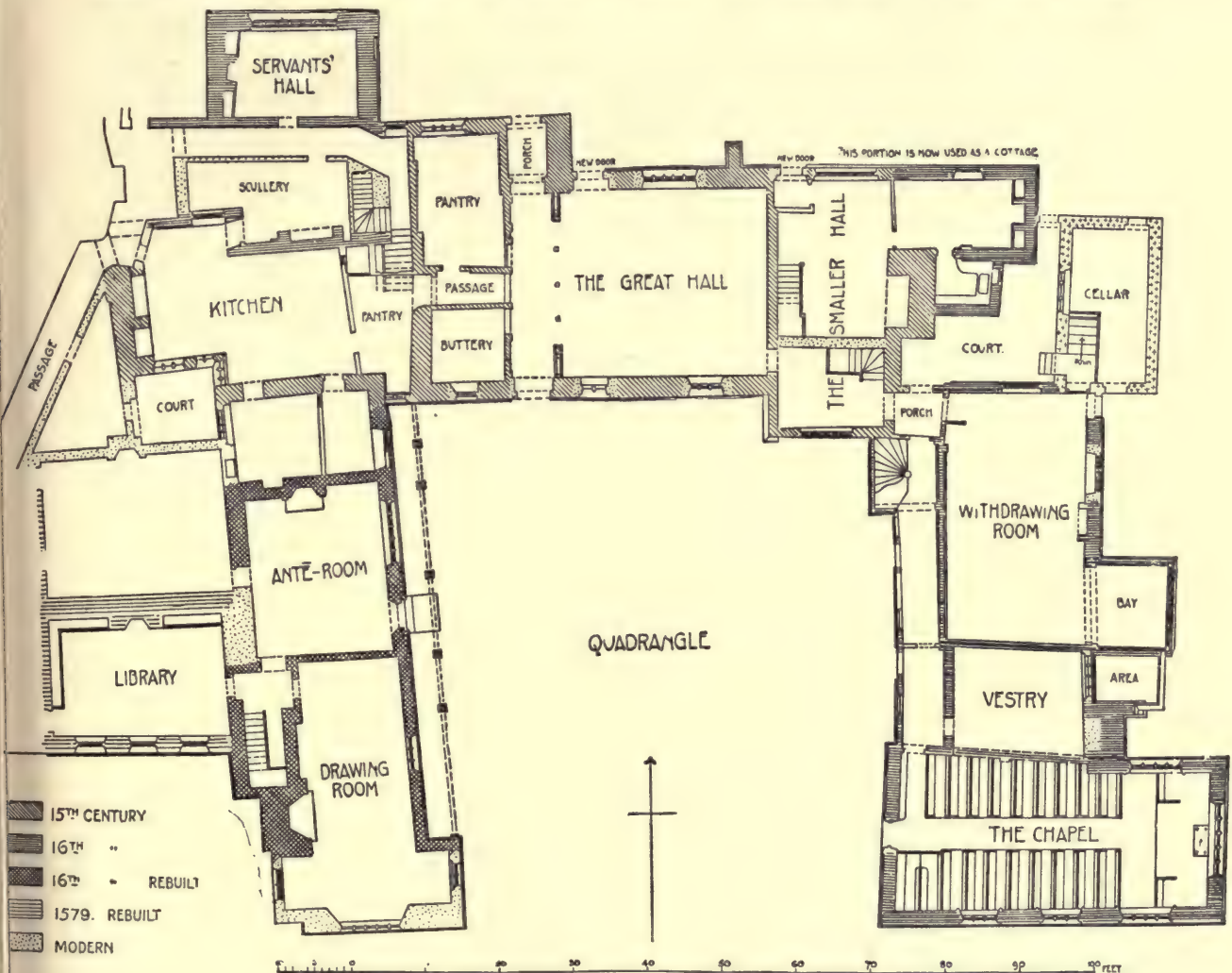


There is a tradition of a house on the present site as far back as the year 680, and that date is rather humorously carved on a stone over the door to the great hall,⁸⁸ but the oldest part of the present building probably belongs to the early part of the 15th century, and may be even later. The rest of the house is of different dates continually altered and added to. The western part has been so much altered that it is difficult to reconstruct the original plan, but the north and east wings of the older part of the house yet constitute one of the most interesting examples of timber construction in Lancashire, though much changed in appearance by later additions in stone.

With its modern extensions at the west, the house, which is of two stories, has a long frontage facing south of over 270 ft., well broken up both as regards plan and skyline, and forming a composition of great picturesqueness. The walls are variously of stone and timber, these materials being used in the modern work, and all the roofs have stone slates. Almost the whole of the walling to the old part of the house, however, has been restored or otherwise renewed, whether in stone or timber and plaster, but portions

of the ancient construction are preserved and show in several places. The greatest part of the ancient work, however, is best seen from the inside.

The oldest part of the house lies to the east and is built on three sides of a quadrangle about 60 ft. wide and 70 ft. from north to south, open on the south side. The great hall occupies the north wing, with the great chamber at its east end, and the kitchen and offices on the west. The east wing, containing the family apartments, terminates at the south with the domestic chapel, approached by a corridor next the courtyard. The staircase is in the north-east angle, forming an external bay with a gable facing west. Between the chapel and the great chamber is a large room, possibly a withdrawing-room, with a large bay window looking east. The north and east wings being no longer inhabited retain the original characteristics of the ancient plan, though much altered from time to time; but the old west wing has been so much modernized that the original arrangement of rooms has been to a great extent lost, though the kitchen and offices occupy pretty much their old position. The house seems to have been extended



PLAN OF SMITHILLS HALL
(The modern west wing is not shown)

⁸⁸ The stone bearing this date is said to have been found about 1820 at Smith-

ills and 'placed over the portico to be more conspicuous.' See *Bolton Reflector*,

16 Aug. 1823, quoted in *Hist. Glean. of Bolton and District* (First Series, 1881), 15.

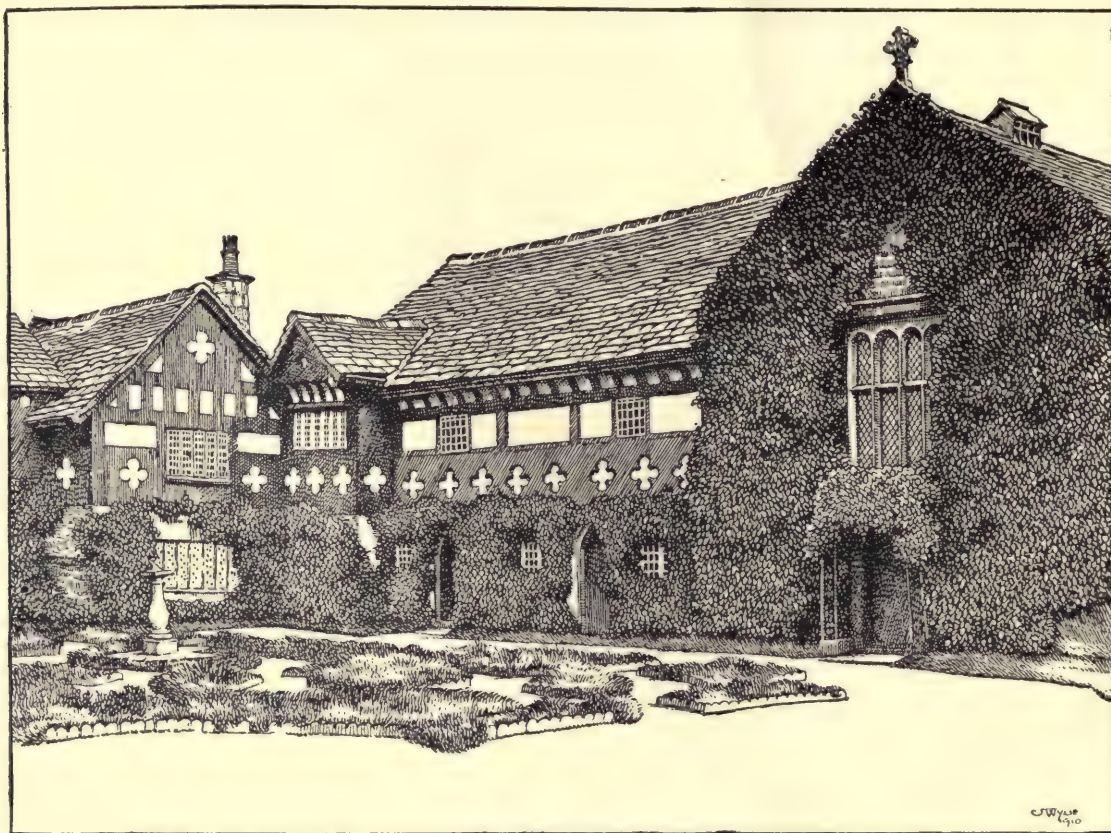
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westward beyond this at different times, but chiefly probably about the year 1579,³⁹ by the addition of a stone gabled wing facing south, which now forms the central portion of the main front. The whole of the building west of this again, with frontages both north and south, is modern work executed within the last twenty-five years,⁴⁰ but in harmony with the older parts.

The original house seems to have been confined to the three sides of the existing quadrangle, there being no indications of buildings having existed on the south side, except that a former gateway which stood at the south end of the west wing would seem to suggest that the courtyard might have been inclosed all round, or was intended to be so. It existed, however, in this position (where the south end of

and the front is now formed of the remaining three sides.'

Very little of the black and white work facing the quadrangle is original, and much of it—the quatrefoil panel to the great hall and the gable in the north-east corner facing south—is paint on plaster. On the west of the quadrangle it is all modern, and only that on the east wing between the chapel and the great hall has any semblance of old work. The walls on the north and east are of stone up to half their height, above which is a wide band of quatrefoils with a cove above under the eaves. The west wing was originally built without any corridor, but in the 17th century a passage was made on the first floor supported on an arcade of oak columns, forming a verandah to the lower rooms. This has been retained,



SMITHILLS HALL, EAST SIDE OF QUADRANGLE

the modern drawing-room now is, immediately opposite the west door of the chapel) till a comparatively recent time, and is so shown in old illustrations of the house.⁴¹

Against this, however, must be quoted Nathaniel Hawthorne's description of the place in his notebooks, 25 Aug. 1855, in which he says: 'The house formerly stood around all four sides of a quadrangle, enclosing a court, and with an entrance through an enclosure. One side of this quadrangle was removed in the time of the present Mr. Ainsworth's father,

and in a reconstructed form is one of the most picturesque features of the courtyard.

The great hall, which is 34 ft. 6 in. long (including the screens) by 25 ft. wide, has been a very fine apartment, but is now much mutilated, though fortunately the screen and original open-timber roof still remain, and the restoration of the room to its original appearance would not be difficult. Towards the end of the 18th century the hall was used as a brewhouse, and the outer walls are then supposed to have been raised and a new roof of flatter pitch was added above

³⁹ This date with the initials R. B. is on a stone in one of the gables.

⁴⁰ From designs by George Devey, architect.

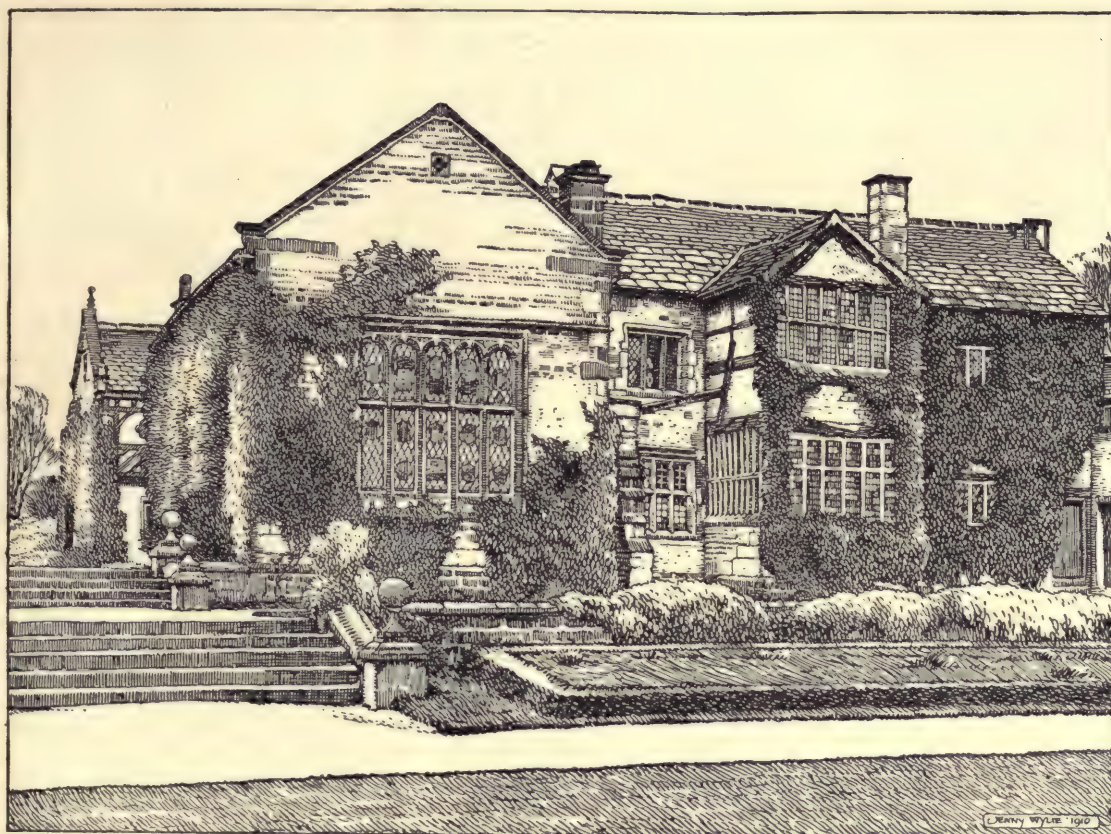
⁴¹ A writer in 1824 says: 'The court-

gate which you observe on entrance exhibits nothing remarkable. . . . On entering through this gate I came into a square courtyard partly paved and partly overgrown with moss and weeds. On

the left hand is the principal entrance to the house, and this part of it is all that has not been altered by the present proprietors.' John Brown, *Hist. of Great and Little Bolton* (1824), 289.

the old one, the original ridge-line being retained.⁴² A floor was probably also inserted, but the hall is now open to the roof for a little more than half its length at the east end, the present floor being over the screens and the first bay beyond—a distance of about 16 ft. From the evidence of the timber framing of the roof and screens the hall would appear to have been erected during the first half of the 15th century,⁴³ and therefore before the Bartons came to Smithills, but the original timber-framed walls seem to have been rebuilt in stone about a century later. The walls have been again largely rebuilt in recent times and are about 3 ft. thick to their original height, above which they are set back on the inside. All the windows are modern, replacing older square-headed ones of plainer type. The screens are at the west

of the principal spring. The roof (which is about 27 ft. to the ridge) is divided into five bays of unequal size, the disposition of the principals giving a short bay at each end (6 ft. over screens and 4 ft. over dais), and in the centre, with larger bays of 8 ft. between. The two central coupled principals probably indicate the presence of a louvre, as there is no fireplace in the hall or sign of there having been one. The timbers of the roof are very massive and plain, the chief ornament consisting of shaped wind braces forming quatrefoil panelling along the whole length. At the east end of the room the original timber construction of the wall behind the dais remains, but the dais and canopy over have disappeared. The roof over the short eastern bay is modern. The whole of the wall west of the screens preserves its



SMITHILLS HALL, EAST SIDE

end and the dais at the east, but a brick wall and the floor above at the west effectually hide from view the old arrangement at that end. The screen or 'speeres,' is however still in position, and the passage way remains intact with its original oak outer doors at each end and a stone porch on the north, and with the three usual openings (two of which are built up) opposite to the hall, leading to the kitchen passage, buttery, and pantry. The 'speeres' stand 4 ft. 6 in. from the walls, on a low stone base, with octagonal angle posts 12 in. in diameter having moulded caps, from which the curved braces forming the underside

ancient timber construction and is enriched with curved braces to its full height, those in the upper part forming large quatrefoil panels. The roof of the hall is carried on stone corbels about 10 ft. from the floor, one of which is carved with an eight-leaved rose. One of the middle principals, however, is continued on the south side down to the floor, which was most likely the case with the others before the rebuilding of the walls in stone. The west end of the hall between the 'speeres' was probably occupied by a standing screen and without a minstrels' gallery, but there are traces of one having been

⁴² This may have been done before, when the corridor was added on the west side and the eaves of both roofs brought into line.

⁴³ The hall is very similar in construction and design to that of Baguley in Cheshire, and is sometimes said to have

been copied from it. Smithills, however, is much less in height, Baguley being 37 ft. to the ridge.

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inserted later, the floor of which would probably be about the height of the present modern floor over the screens.⁴⁴

The great chamber at the east end of the hall is now cut up and hardly recognizable, but was formerly a room 33 ft. long by 14 ft. 6 in. wide with windows north and south and a large fireplace on the east side, all of which features still remain though difficult to distinguish. The ceiling is low and crossed by four moulded beams and a single one its full length forming ten square panels, and there is a room over. The window at the south end under the gable facing the quadrangle is an original square-headed one with moulded wood mullions and diamond quarries.

Beyond the great chamber a small lobby marks the junction of the north and east wings, with a door to a small open court on the north. From this court some external timber construction can be seen on the north and west sides, together with the massive stone chimney of the great chamber—one of the few parts of the building that have not been much restored. On the floor of the lobby itself is shown the footprint of George Marsh, the Protestant martyr, carefully preserved under a grating.

The large room at the north end of the east wing may have been used as a dining-room after the abandonment of the great hall, or possibly as a withdrawing-room. It is 33 ft. in length and 19 ft. wide, and at its south-east corner is a large bay window 11 ft. square separated from the room by an arched opening with carved spandrels. The great distance of the room from the kitchen is rather against its having been used as a banqueting hall, though there appears to have been a doorway to a cellar (at a lower level) at the north-east end. The ceiling is divided into four bays by three richly moulded oak beams with moulded brackets supported on wood corbels and longitudinally by three smaller beams, similarly moulded, making twelve squares, each square being enriched by moulded joists about a foot apart. The ceiling of the bay is boarded, with thin moulded ribs nailed on forming a star-shaped panelling. The bay itself preserves its old timber construction, and goes up two stories, finishing in a gable; but the windows are only old on the north and south sides, where the original diamond quarries and moulded mullions and transoms remain.⁴⁵ On the east the window frame is modern with square chamfered detail and large square quarries. The north and east walls of the room have been rebuilt in brick, but the west and south walls show the old timber and plaster construction, but are otherwise plain. The fireplace on the east side and the windows near it are modern. Originally the room was richly panelled in oak,⁴⁶ and must have presented a very handsome appearance, but a good deal of the

oak panelling is now in the modern dining-room on the other side of the house. The room over was called the Green Chamber, and is that in which the examination of George Marsh is said to have been held.

The domestic chapel is 42 ft. long and 21 ft wide at the west end, tapering to 18 ft. at the east. In 1856 a fire did much damage, entirely destroying the roof and all the furniture, and the interior has therefore little archaeological interest, all the fittings being modern. The entrance from the house corridor is at the north-west corner, and there is a door at the west end opening to the garden. There is a large square-headed mullioned and transomed window at each end, three smaller windows of three and four lights in the south side, and one of four lights at the east end of the north side. The coloured glass is all new, except in the east window, where portions of the original heraldic glass are preserved, with the Stanley arms and badge conspicuous among them.

On the north side, separated from it by a wall, a room was formerly used as a vestry,⁴⁷ 18 ft. by 14 ft., above which, open to the chapel, was the family pew approached by a door from the corridor above. The vestry has now been thrown into the chapel as a kind of transept, and the pew turned into a gallery. The chapel is still used for public worship.

The rooms in the ancient west wing have been wholly modernized and have no particular interest. They consist of an ante-room and a modern drawing-room of irregular shape, with a narrow staircase on the west side adjoining the fireplace, which, carried up with an external timber gable next to the chimney, makes a rather happy feature in the garden front. In the ante-room is a good carved oak mantel with the date 1694 and the initials A.B. West of these the house is more or less modern, the 17th-century additions which immediately adjoin the old west wing having been a good deal reconstructed and restored. The dining-room and library, however, are interesting rooms on account of their oak wainscot, that of the dining-room being, as before stated, the original panelling from the later hall on the other side of the house. It consists chiefly of long linen pattern panels, with square panels below and an elaborate cornice above. On the west wall is a series of fourteen panels carved in the top part with heads within circles, and below with various designs, four having the Barton oak leaf and acorn, three the buck's head, two a molet, and the rest various patterns of interlaced work. A central additional panel has the sacred monogram "I.H.S." as an interlaced pattern under an ogee head.⁴⁸ The library adjoining (between the dining

⁴⁴ 'At some subsequent period, but still in Gothic times, a minstrels' gallery was inserted, the mortices for which are still conspicuous.' Henry Taylor, *Old Halls in Lancs. and Ches.* (1883).

⁴⁵ There is also a moulded sill on the south side, but that on the north is modern.

⁴⁶ Dr. Aikin, writing in 1795, says: 'At Smithells is still remaining a wainscotted room, the panels of which are adorned with upwards of fifty heads cut in the wood which are supposed to represent different persons of the family'

(*Descr. of the Country from thirty to fifty miles round Manchester*). By 1824 a great part of the panelling had been taken away, some of it being in the room above, but the walls of the room were still 'particularly curious for containing carvings in wood'; John Brown, *Hist. of Great and Little Bolton*.

⁴⁷ According to the description in Brown's *Hist. of Bolton* (1824), this room originally formed part of the hall or withdrawing-room on the north side, which apartment had been thus curtailed by the then owner.

⁴⁸ On either side of the bay window in this room are painted the arms of the different families connected with Smithells, as follows:

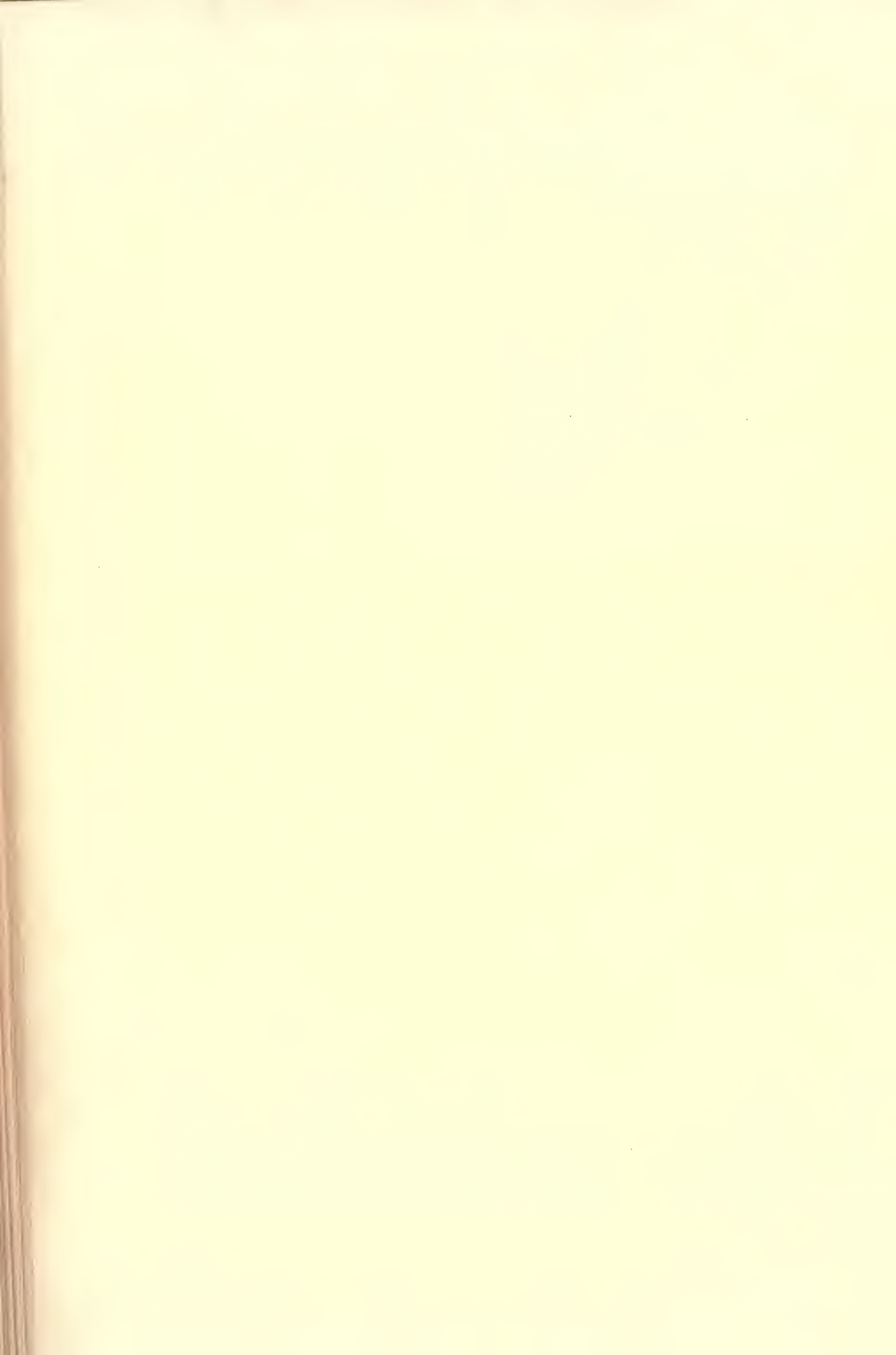
1. Radcliffe impaling Norley, 1330
2. Barton impaling Radcliffe, 1505
3. Barton impaling Stanley, 1567
4. Belasyse impaling Barton, 1641
5. Byrom impaling Bradshaw, 1723
6. Ainsworth impaling Aspinall, 1801
7. Ainsworth impaling Noble, 1807
8. Ainsworth impaling Byrom, 1833.



HALLIWELL : SMITHILLS HALL, c. 1845
(From a Drawing by J. G. Dodd)



LITTLE HULTON : WHARTON HALL



and drawing-rooms), is also elaborately fitted up with black oak but mostly of later date than that of the dining-room, the detail being of very pronounced renaissance type, and consisting of scriptural and other subjects with quaint inscriptions. The wall between the library and the ante-room contains an old fireplace now built up and completely hidden, and north of the library is a room lit from the ceiling, now called the dome-room, which is in the site of a former open area. It has a good carved oak 17th-century mantel and door,⁴⁹ and contains a sideboard dated 1642.

The rooms on the first floor have no points of interest.

Externally the north front of the house is almost entirely modern, the only old portions being at the east end, where some of the old stone windows and a moulded string-course remain. The east elevation is the least altered, showing as it does the old timber and plaster bay and gable over in an almost unrestored condition.

The gardens lie on the south and east of the house, a terrace wall extending along the whole length of the south and east fronts, the coping of which is on a level with the grass of the lawn so as to keep the view over the park uninterrupted from the ground-floor windows. The terrace staircase enhances the general effect of the external elevation by increasing its height,

and the long terrace walk, which is 15 ft. wide and extends the full length of the south front, is below the level of the lawn. At its west end is a raised mound approached by three flights of steps.

Egburden, later Egbert Dene, seems to have included the whole north-western part of Halliwell, known as Smithills Dene and Smithills Moor.⁵⁰ It was part of the lands of the barons of Manchester,⁵¹ and was held of them by the Bartons of Smithills.⁵²

In addition to the Hospitallers the Canons of Cockersand had land in alms in Halliwell.⁵³

The local surname occurs.⁵⁴ Richard Lees was a freeholder in 1600.⁵⁵ Adam Mort of Astley⁵⁶ and others are recorded to have held lands here in the times of Charles I.⁵⁷

William Swinburne, a Halliwell recusant, in 1653 petitioned to be allowed to contract for his sequestered estate.⁵⁸

The principal landowner in 1788 was Miss Byrom, others being Roger Dewhurst, — Aspinall, and Escrick.⁵⁹

The most notable man springing from the township is the George Marsh, already mentioned, who was condemned and burnt to death at Chester on 24 April 1555 for teaching Protestant doctrines, and refusing to compromise.⁶⁰

In recent times several places of worship have been

⁴⁹ No doubt brought from the other side of the house.

⁵⁰ In 1322 it seems to have been divided into two portions; one was called Haghead and joined with Horwich Lee; and the other was called Withinrod, a parcel of moorland; they were vaccaries. See *Mamecestre*, ii, 366, 367.

⁵¹ Thomas La Warre, lord of Manchester, in 1404 made a feoffment of 1,000 acres of waste and pasture in the town of Heaton called Egburden; Chan. Inq. p.m. 5 Hen. VI, no. 54. From this and the preceding note it will be seen that the district was in or bordering upon Horwich and Heaton; it also adjoined Sharples, as is seen from a charter by Thurstan de Holland in 1429, quoted in the account of that township. It is marked in Halliwell, as Egbert Dene, in the ordnance map of 1848. It may have been attached to this township through being owned by the Smithills family.

⁵² It is named in the Barton inquiries, but the tenure is not stated; Duchy of Lanc. Inq. p.m. iv, 82; xiv, 24; xvii, 50.

⁵³ Eight charters are recorded in the *Cockersand Chart*. (Chet. Soc.), ii, 698–702. Nesta de Westhoughton granted land next to the assart of the Hospitallers, the hedge of Crosscliff's End being a boundary; in 1268 Roger son of Robert held this land at a rent of 6d., half a mark being payable at death. The same Nesta gave another part of her land, held in 1268 by Roger son of William, at a rent of 8d. and half a mark at death. Thomas the Clerk of Eccles, Margery de Pendlebury, Ellis de Pendlebury, William Moscrop, and Robert his son, and Robert de Sharples were also benefactors. Among the field and boundary names there occur — Tahaureise, Swinbodeslache, Lanulache, Brentspert, and Longlands End.

In 1294 Joan daughter of Austin de Crosscliff granted to Richard de Hulton all the land in Halliwell she had held of the Abbot of Cockersand; *Hulton Ped.* 5.

In 1461 a Cockersand rental shows

that Richard Hulton held the abbey lands freely at a rent of 2s. He would probably be of the Halliwell branch of the family.

⁵⁴ In 1292 Richard de Houlton and Hugh de Halliwell claimed a tenement against Ellis de Heaton, but were nonsuited; *Assize R.* 408, m. 14 d.

⁵⁵ *Misc.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), i, 250.

⁵⁶ Duchy of Lanc. Inq. p.m. xxv, 33; the property was held of the king.

⁵⁷ John Harper, who died in 1628, held three messuages and lands of the king as the two-hundredth part of a knight's fee; his son John, a clerk, was thirty-three years of age; *ibid.* xxvii, 72.

Richard Johnson, who died in 1629, leaving as heir his ten-year-old grandson John (son of John); also held land in Halliwell of the king; *ibid.* xxviii, 33, 77.

Thomas Worthington, chapman, held the Little House of the king; Thomas his son and heir was fifteen years of age; *ibid.* xxviii, 6.

Robert Sharples *alias* Ward similarly held land of the king; dying in 1623 he left a son and heir Robert, aged thirty-one; Towneley MS. C, 8, 13 (Chet. Lib.), 1089. Martin Taylor, also a tenant, had a son Robert, aged twenty-eight, in 1636; *ibid.* 1178.

⁵⁸ *Cal. of Com. for Compounding*, v, 3178.

⁵⁹ Land tax returns at Preston. Roger Dewhurst purchased an estate in Halliwell in 1715, and died in 1728, aged fifty-six. His son Roger was born at Halliwell Hall in 1716, and died in 1806; his diary (1784–6) has been printed; Bolton, 1881.

⁶⁰ The only account is in Foxe's *Acts and Mon.* (ed. Cattley, vii, 39–68); see also *Ches. Sheaf* (3rd Ser.), iii, 37, &c.; iv, 89. It is derived mainly from his own record of his earlier examinations; the source of the later portion of the story is not given. The Marsh family continued to reside at Halliwell; one of them, as

shown above, acquired part of the manor; another, James Marsh, who died in 1637, held lands there of the king by the thirtieth part of a knight's fee; his son and heir Thomas was twenty-three years of age; Towneley MS. C, 8, 13, p. 859.

George Marsh was born about 1520, and worked his farm till after the death of his wife, about the beginning of the reign of Edward VI. Embracing the Reformed doctrines he went up to Cambridge, and graduated in 1551 or 1552 from Christ's College. He became curate to Lawrence Sanders, who had benefices in London and Leicestershire, and was ordained deacon in London in May 1552, and priest later by the Bishop of Lincoln.

On the accession of Mary, he returned to Lancashire, and had thoughts of going abroad; but in Jan. and Feb. 1553–4, seeing the overthrow of the reforms, he could not refrain from denouncing it, and was reported to have spoken 'most heretically and blasphemously . . . against the Pope's authority and Catholic church of Rome, the blessed Mass, the sacrament of the altar,' &c.

This outburst being coincident with Wyatt's rebellion, attracted the attention of the court, and the Earl of Derby resolved to seize the preacher. Marsh, however, was a brave and resolute man; and after a mental struggle on the moors, he decided to surrender himself. He was sent to Lathom and examined by the earl and his council, while Dr. Brassey and others argued with him, endeavouring to induce him to recant. This was in vain, and he was in April sent to Lancaster to await trial. At the sessions Marsh was brought up, but no civil offence being proved against him he was at last handed over to the bishop, and about the end of the year taken to Chester. It is significant of his doctrine that 'children-confirming,' 'mass-hearing,' &c., were all classed by him as 'blasphemous idolatry' and 'heathenish rites forbidden by God.'

After four months at Chester the bishop (George Coates) finding his arguments and

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erected in the township. For the Established Church St. Peter's was built in 1840,⁶¹ followed by St. Paul's in 1848;⁶² in 1874 and 1875 respectively St. Luke's⁶³ and St. Thomas's⁶⁴ were added. The patronage is in the hands of trustees, except in the case of St. Paul's, to which Colonel R. H. Ainsworth presents. There is a chapel at Smithills,⁶⁵ and a Wesleyan chapel at Delph Hill.

The Roman Catholic church of St. Joseph, which originated in 1881, was opened in 1900.⁶⁶

WESTHOUGHTON

Westhalghton, 1292, and usually; Westhalton, 1302; the *West* is often omitted. Westhaughton and Westhoughton, xvi cent.

This township, the largest in the parish, has an area of 4,341 acres,¹ having an average breadth of over 2 miles from north-east to south-west, and an extreme length of nearly $3\frac{1}{2}$ miles from north-west to south-east. The highest ground is that along the north-eastern border, over 480 ft. being reached in one place; the surface slopes generally downwards to the south-west, the lowest point, about 120 ft., being in the extreme southerly corner. Borsdane Brook separates it from Aspull; another brook divides it from Hindley, and joins a stream rising on the northern edge of Westhoughton and flowing south through Leigh to Glazebrook.

The road from Manchester to Chorley goes through the northern side of the township, passing the hamlets of Chequerbent, Wingates, and Fourgates. Westhoughton village is near the centre of the township, on the crooked road from Wigan, through Hindley and Hart Common, to Bolton. From the village roads go north to Wingates, east to Chequerbent, and south to Daisy Hill and Leigh; there are numerous cross roads. The Lancashire and Yorkshire Railway has several lines; the main line from Liverpool to Manchester crosses the township north-easterly, with a station, called Westhoughton, to the north of the village; a branch runs north to join the Bolton and Preston line, and has stations called Dicconson Lane and Hilton House; a second branch runs east to Pendleton, and has a station at Daisy Hill. The London and North-Western Company's Kenyon and Bolton line crosses the eastern corner of the township, with a station called Chequerbent.

The population in 1901 was 13,339.

Agriculture is still one of the principal industries

of the township; the soil is clay, and oats and potatoes are the chief products. Cotton and other goods are manufactured, and there are coal mines. Bobbin, spindle, and shuttle making, and nail manufacturing were engaged in in 1825. A once flourishing trade is now extinct.

It appears to have been at Westhoughton that Adam Banastre and others made their confederacy in October 1315.²

A battle was fought on the common in 1642 between Lord Derby's forces and the Parliamentary levies;³ and Prince Rupert is stated to have mustered his troops there prior to the attack on Bolton in 1644.

A token was issued at Daisy Hillock in 1652.⁴

The hearths liable to the tax in 1666 numbered 98. The largest house was that of William Worthington, having six hearths; Ralph Brown and William Leigh had five each.⁵

A local board was formed in 1872.⁶ In 1894 an urban district council was formed, having twelve members elected by four wards. In 1898 part of Over Hulton was added, Hulton ward returning three members to the council. Mr. Carnegie has given a library building.

Westhoughton gives its name to one of the Parliamentary divisions of South-east Lancashire.

Peter Dodd's Well was regarded as an indicator of the weather.⁷

It is difficult to trace the early descent *MANOR* of *WESTHOUGHTON*. The whole township seems to have been held of the lords of Manchester, chiefly by the Barton family,⁸ but partly by the Pendleburys. The latter also held lands in the Barton portion. About the middle of the 13th century Sir Gilbert de Barton granted to Henry de Sefton, clerk, and his heirs or assigns the whole lordship of Westhoughton, with escheats, wardships, &c.; the homages of Roger de Pendlebury and others; escheats and liberties of the tenement of Thomas the Small; with all liberties of the lordship in pastures, woods, and plain, sor-hawks and deer, waters and pools, ways and paths, mill pools, and others. Further, he granted that Henry and his successors should be quit of all suit of the court at Barton as well for Westhoughton as for Aspull.⁹

Henry de Sefton quickly bestowed the lordship upon the abbot and canons of Cockersand, who had already come into possession of a considerable estate in the township by a series of grants beginning about 1200. Beside the lordship he granted them the third part of the vill, which he must have held in

persuasions of no avail, proceeded to trial, and there being no recantation, condemned him. There was a pathetic scene in the Lady Chapel of the cathedral, the old bishop pausing at times in reading the sentence in hopes of signs of yielding, and the people praying the accused to give way. Marsh, however, remained steadfast, and was burned at Boughton accordingly.

⁶¹ For endowment see *Lond. Gaz.* 3 Aug. 1873.

⁶² *Ibid.* 24 July 1874, and 11 Aug. 1876, for endowments.

⁶³ *Ibid.* 31 Oct. 1876, district; 16 Nov. 1877, 11 June 1880, and 11 Nov. 1881, endowments. There is a mission chapel, St. Margaret's.

⁶⁴ *Ibid.* 1 July 1879, district; 25 Mar. 1881, endowment.

⁶⁵ The above-quoted will of John Barton, 1514 shows that he had a chapel there.

⁶⁶ Kelly, *Engl. Catb. Missions*, 199.
¹ 4,344, including 14 of inland water, according to the census of 1901.

² *Coram Rege* R. 254, m. 52; the place is called Haulton, near Blackrod.

³ *Civil War Tracts* (Chet. Soc.), 125; the Parliament's men were beaten through their magazine exploding.

⁴ *Lancs. and Ches. Antiq. Soc.* v, 93; the initials H. D. M. may indicate Henry Molyneux.

⁵ Subs. R. bdle. 250, no. 9, Lancs. 'Nether Hulton,' with 103 hearths, was probably part of it, for Nathaniel Molyneux's house was there, with six hearths.

⁶ *Lond. Gaz.* 24 Sept. 1872.

⁷ *Local N. and Q.* (*Manch. Guardian*), no. 791.

⁸ *Lancs. Inq. and Extents* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), i, 54.

⁹ *Cockersand Chart.* (Chet. Soc.), ii, 690; the consideration named for this grant is 'three marks of silver given me in my great need,' but no doubt there had been previous loans or assistance.

Thomas the Small, whose share is mentioned specially, afterwards killed a certain Thomas de Byron; he was outlawed, and his lands were taken into the king's hands, the abbot making fine and recovering the lands. In 1292 his son John claimed them from the abbot, who called Richard [de Ince] son of Henry de Sefton to warrant him, and John was non-suited; Assize R. 408, m. 26 d.

demesne, with all its appurtenances, including fishponds, honey, and hawks. For this the canons gave him 50 marks.¹⁰

BRINSOP, in the extreme north-western corner of the township, also came into the possession of Cockersand. In 1235 it was granted by Gilbert de Barton to Richard de Bracebridge, being reckoned as three oxgangs of land.¹¹ Probably it reverted to the Bartons and was included in the grant of Henry de Sefton. The manor-house of the canons seems to have been at this place.

¹⁰ *Cockersand Chart.* ii, 688; for Henry de Sefton see further in the accounts of Ince and Aspull in Wigan. The abbot was to render 1½d. to the chief lord for all services and customs.

The Cockersand estate had been derived from various benefactions. Hugh son of William son of Nest granted 'the whole third part of the vill,' with the homages and services appurtenant, for which he received 31 marks; *ibid.* ii, 678. It is possible that this was the 'third part' afterwards held and surrendered by Henry de Sefton. William son of Nest had granted to Thomas son of Ellis de Pendlebury land in Ballesey, bounded by the road from Houghton to Aspull, Ridley brook, Green lache, and Aldersnape head, &c.; and Thomas, in turn, granted it to the canons; *ibid.* 679.

Thomas de Houghton, clerk, made several grants of land; between Well brook and Town brook, and between the latter and Balledean brook; in Birchley and by his grange at Conware; and all his land of Birchley and Sandeveshurst. Cecily his wife confirmed these grants; she appears to have received the lands from Austin de Houghton, being confirmed in them by Robert the rector of Winwick; *ibid.* 680-3. This may be the land of Thomas son of Swain for which Gilbert de Notton and Edith his wife also granted a confirmation; *ibid.* 687.

Roger son of Adam de Pendlebury gave all his lands in Westhoughton, except Snyderale; *ibid.* 677. There were also donations from the Rylands family; *ibid.* 685. Ellis de Pendlebury granted the Priest's croft; its bounds followed the Town brook as far as the road to Aspull, then by a syke by Recingpool moss to the lache going into Bradley brook, across from this brook beyond the carr, and as far as the Town brook ford lying on the north side of Hugh's house; *ibid.* 688. Robert the mercer of [West] Derbyshire afterwards surrendered his claim to this croft; *ibid.* 687.

Several rentals of the abbey are known; *ibid.* iii, 1232, &c. In 1251 and 1260 the farms of Westhoughton amounted to 9s. 8½d.; Thomas de Whittleswick was the chief tenant. The rentals of 1451 and 1461 give long lists of tenants; John Rigby held Balledean; Thomas Laithwaite, Brinsop; and James Holden, Windyates.

¹¹ *Final Conc.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), i, 61. A service of four barbed arrows, or 1d., was due from it. The place is not named in the Cockersand Chartulary, though it occurs in the rentals; and the Cockersand manor seems always to have been reckoned as one oxgang.

¹² *Coram Rege* R. 297, m. 121, printed in *Lancs. and Ches. Antiq. Notes*, i, 6. The rating of the township at one oxgang of hide land seems an instance of beneficial assessment; two plough-lands would have

been more reasonable. It appears, indeed, that in 1296 Margaret widow of Ellis de Turton claimed against the Abbot of Cockersand dower in a messuage and plough-land in Westhoughton; *De Banco R.* 114, m. 86.

The abbot's moiety must have been the result of the grants recorded in the previous note; nothing is said in the suit as to his lordship of the whole vill granted by Henry de Sefton. Roger son of Ellis de Westhoughton granted to Cockersand all his claim in the waste in return for 8 acres lying near his land of Birchley and another 8 acres lying near his land of Rylands. This is the only grant in the *Chartul.* (691), and is no doubt that mentioned in the text.

John son of Thomas de Houghton in 1331 did not prosecute a claim he made against the abbot in Westhoughton; *Assize R.* 1404, m. 19.

¹³ An account of the family, with illustrative deeds, by Mr. J. Paul Rylands, was printed in the *Gen.* (1880), iv, 170-8. The fields now called 'Rylands' lie to the south-west of the Quakers' meeting-house on the road from Westhoughton to Hindley.

John son of Robert de Rylands granted to the canons of Cockersand all his land in Ballesey, and followed this by a surrender of his claim in the waste, founded on a charter by Adam de Pendlebury, in return for 14 acres by the Wallbrook and Warcock Hill; *Chartul.* ii, 685, 686.

In *Fine R.* 80, 10 E i, m. 10, he is called John del Rylandes de Halughton.

He was a juror at Manchester in 1282 to inquire into the value of knights' fees, &c.; *Mamecestre* (Chet. Soc.), i, 168.

The abbot and canons of Cockersand about 1280 leased to John the Jew the land which they had from Richard de Rylands in Westhoughton; John also held the land granted by John de Rylands, and another portion bought from William de Rylands; *Chartul.* ii, 694.

Richard son of John de Rylands (*Duchy Misc.* 3/9) was probably a clerk, as he is styled Master Richard in 1282; *Assize R.* 10 Edw. I (Rec. Soc. xlvii, 175). He is named in 1302; *Assize R.* no. 418, m. 2. He was the first witness to a settlement, dated at Hulton 3 Nov. 1338, of Adam de Hulton's lands in Westhoughton; Mr. Hulton's D. Richard de Rylands was a juror *re* Bradshagh in 1317. He had at least two sons, William de Rylands, named in *Duchy of Lanc. Misc.* 3/9 and *Misc. R.* div. 25, bde. 2, no. 11, and John de Rylands, who married a kinswoman of Adam de Hindley, and in 1306 was wounded in an affray at Wigan; *Assize R.* no. 421, m. 1 d.

William and Robert de Rylands of Westhoughton contributed to the subsidy in 1327 and 1332.

In the *Coram Rege* Roll of 1334 (*R.* 297, m. 83) it is recorded that the Abbot

In a suit of some seventy years later it was declared that in 1261-2 Adam, Abbot of Cockersand, had held half the oxgang at which the vill was assessed; and Roger son of Ellis de Westhoughton and John de Rylands each held a moiety of the remainder. In the year named the said Roger granted his fourth part to the abbot, so that three parts of the lordship were in the hands of the canons in 1334.¹² It is probable that the Rylands' share was subsequently acquired by the canons; but this family long afterwards continued to hold land in the township.¹³

of Cockersand successfully claimed 14 acres of wood against John son of John de Hulton, Robert son of Robert de Pendlebury, Richard de Bradshagh and Roger and Adam his sons, and William de Rylands. The jurors stated that the abbot was sole lord. In the same roll (m. 121), however, it is also recorded that William de Rylands and Agnes his wife claimed common of pasture in 100 acres of wood, and 200 acres of moss and pasture against the abbot, Robert de Rylands, and Roger Walet.

In this action William claimed as son of Thomas son of the above-named John de Rylands, the abbot admitting that in 1262 John de Rylands had held one-fourth part of the lordship, and that the same had devolved by descent upon William. It therefore appears that in the year 1334 the Rylands family still retained their right to one-fourth part of the lordship, and the finding of the jury was in accordance with the abbot's evidence. But it seems probable that they were in fact mesne tenants of the Abbot of Cockersand, though in all probability their tenure of their lands in Westhoughton commenced at a period anterior to the acquisition of the manor by the abbey.

In the *De Banco* Rolls of 1333 and 1334 (296, m. 387, and 300, m. 232) there are records of a dispute between Ellen and Margery, daughters of Maurice de Rylands, and Adam son of Richard de Bradshagh regarding a messuage and land in Westhoughton, from which it appears that Ellen and Margery were sisters and heirs of Richard de Rylands.

In 1348 Agnes widow of William de Rylands granted to her nephew (*nepos*) Adam son of Richard del Grange her part of a messuage, water-mill, and horse-mill, &c., held of the Abbot of Cockersand; Thomas Hodgeson de Rylands is mentioned; *Chart.* ii, 755 (*Add. MS.* 32107, fol. 190b).

In 1371-2 Robert de Maunton, chaplain, and John le Mort, executors of the will of William son of Robert de Rylands appeared against the Abbot of Cockersand claiming that 30 acres of land and 10 acres of wood demised by the abbot to William were unjustly held against the said executors; *De Banco R.* 443, m. 122.

The Abbot of Cockersand in 1395-6 leased to William Rylands and Thurstan and Thomas his sons a tenement 'upon condition that if they die within the term [19 years] the abbot may re-enter, and that they shall not alien without licence, and that they shall repair the houses during the term, and after the death of every one to pay 13s. 4d.'; and in the next year the abbot gave a reversion to Thomas, Lawrence, and John Rylands; *Local Glean. Lancs. and Ches.* ii, 225, from *Duchy of Lanc. Misc. R.* div. 25, Z.111.

Lawrence de Rylands of Wexham

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The Byrons also had lands in the township.¹⁴ In 1320 the Abbot of Cockersand was said to hold the fortieth part of a fee in Westhoughton, paying 2d. for sake fee and 6d. for ward of the castle;¹⁵ and the same tenure continued in 1473.¹⁶

As in the case of most monastic estates, possession by the canons was marked by few disputes or incidents of note. In 1272 they procured a delimitation of the boundary between Westhoughton and Lostock on the north.¹⁷ The abbot made complaints in 1343 and 1359 concerning the cutting down of his trees.¹⁸ An inquiry was made in 1385 concerning the surrender of lands to find a lamp to burn for ever in the choir of the abbey church.¹⁹ A few years before the Dissolution disputes broke out between the abbot and his tenants as to the right of

renewing their nineteen-year leases.²⁰ The manor was farmed to Sir Thomas Langton in 1538.²¹

Some years after the suppression the manor of Westhoughton was granted by the king to James Browne, citizen and haberdasher of London, for £1,035 11s. 8d., to be held by the tenth part of a knight's fee and a rent of £5 14s. 8½d.²² His descendants continued to hold it for about a century.²³ They resided at Brinsop.

The Brothertons of Hey seem to have succeeded them.²⁴ The 'manor' was in 1836 said to be held by Lord Skelmersdale; but none is now claimed by Major Lionel Wilbraham, to whom this estate has descended.²⁵

Brinsop Hall was in the first half of the 18th century in the possession of John Widdowes, who mar-

Bucks., had protections on going into France in the retinues of Sir William Philip, Sir Thomas Beaumont, and others, between 1429 and 1439; *Dep. Keeper's Rep.* xlviii, App. The will of Alice Rylands of London, proved in 1442, contains a bequest to Wexham Church; Commissary of Lond. fol. 96.

Nicholas Rylands in 1474, when seventy-eight years of age, in Leigh parish church, swore upon a book that he had never made a feoffment to Thomas Stanley and Piers Legh, or to Roger Hulton of the Park, sen., of his lands, &c., within Westhoughton; nor had he made a feoffment to his son William of his father Robert's lands in Westhoughton, Lowton, and Pemberton; *Gen.* iv, 174. The MS. containing this is now in the Grosvenor Museum, Chester. Nicholas had, in 1430, married Margery daughter of Sir Thomas Gerard; *ibid.* 172.

Ralph Rylands in 1503-4 released to Anne widow of Geoffrey Shakerley, and Peter son and heir of Geoffrey, all claim on lands, &c., in the parishes of Winwick, Leigh, and Deane; *ibid.* 175.

Members of the Rylands family appear in the rentals of Cockersand as tenants of the abbey. In 1451 and 1461 Peter and Hugh Rylands each held a tenement, paying what was then a substantial rent. In 1501 Peter's tenement was apparently held by the wife of Geoffrey Shakerley, and Hugh's tenement by Humphrey Rylands; and the latter one was held by another Peter Rylands in 1537. Another Peter was living at Westhoughton in 1587; *Co. Pal. Plea R.* 29 Eliz. no. 261, m. 19.

Ralph Rylands of Westhoughton removed to Culcheth at the beginning of the 17th century, and his descendants subsequently settled at Warrington, with which town they are still identified. One of them, Mr. Peter Rylands, of Warrington, was the Parliamentary representative of that town in the latter part of the last century; *Ped. in the Coll. of Arms.*

Other members of the family continued to reside in Westhoughton and neighbouring townships. Peter Rylands of Daisy Hillock, Westhoughton, agent for sequestrations under the Parliament, died in 1663, leaving a son Peter, M.A. Trin. Coll. Dublin, who became treasurer and vicar-choral of Limerick Cathedral, and died without issue in 1695, having married Diana daughter of Sir Drury Wray, bart. who was remarried to Archdeacon Twigge of Limerick; *Gen.* iv, 177-8.

¹⁴ Geoffrey son of Geoffrey de Byron for 15 marks released to the canons of Cockersand all the land he had held of

them at a rent of 12d.; and Richard son of Robert de Worsley gave a quitclaim also; *Chart.* ii, 690. In 1292 Richard du Boulton, Richard son of Roger de Worsley, William de Aintree, and others claimed a tenement in Westhoughton from the Abbot of Cockersand, but were non-suited; *Assize R.* 408, m. 46.

¹⁵ *Lancs. Inq. and Extents*, ii, 71.

¹⁶ *Mamecestre* (Chet. Soc.), 480. It appears, however, that the abbot paid a rent of 13s. 4d. to the lord of Manchester; *Duchy of Lanc. Rentals and Surv.* bble. 5, no. 2.

¹⁷ *Chart.* ii, 675-6. The bounds followed Bishop's lache to Buckshaw brook, up this brook to its head, then along Mother lache, between the rushy land and the deep moss, to Winyates carr and then to the head of Redshaw, crossing the moss from this point in a straight line to the syke between Rumworth and Suynul (? Snyderale).

¹⁸ *Assize R.* 430, m. 6d.; *Duchy of Lanc. Assize R.* 7, m. 1d.

¹⁹ Sir John de Ippe and John de Titterington, vicar of Mitton, desired to give a messuage and 40 acres in Westhoughton, held of the Abbot of Cockersand, for the purpose named. The premises paid a rent of 2d. a year to the abbot, who held them of Sir John La Warre as of the fee of the barony of Manchester in free alms, and by the service of 1d. yearly; *Chan. Inq.* p.m. 8 Ric. II, no. 69.

²⁰ Some of the tenants it appeared had held their lands without taking the trouble to renew their leases; but in 1530 it was ruled that they must renew at the expiration of the term, paying a penny to the abbot as 'earnest penny,' or 'God's penny,' and another penny to the steward as 'entry penny,' according to the custom; *Duchy Plead.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), i, 192-4.

About 1520 Richard Urmston, who had married Ellen daughter of Nicholas Holden, claimed on her behalf a tenement in Westhoughton. The actual holder, Peter Williamson, claimed in right of his wife, who was a widow and married him without the abbot's consent, whereby, it was alleged, her right was forfeited; *ibid.* ii, 150. The claim of Ellen Gorton, made about the same time, has some interesting details; *ibid.* i, 99.

²¹ *Local Gleanings Lancs. and Ches.* i, 181.

²² *Pat.* 37 Hen. VIII, pt. 4, m. 24.

The lands of the monastery of Cockersand, including the manor of Westhoughton, were recovered in 1821, Richard Dashwood being vouchee; *Pal. of Lanc. Assize R.* Lent, 2 Geo. IV, rot. 12.

²³ It was found in 1588 that James Browne at his death in 1587 had held the manor of Westhoughton and various lands of the queen by the twentieth part of a knight's fee; its value was £10 a year. In 1562 he had granted it to his son Robert, who had married Anne daughter of John Langtree, with remainder to Robert's son James; *Duchy of Lanc. Inq.* p.m. xiv, 37.

Anne daughter of William Banaster married — Browne of Brinsop; *Dugdale, Visit.* (Chet. Soc.), 25. Anne wife of James Browne, and Mary wife of James Browne, both of Westhoughton, were recusants in 1619; *Manch. Sess.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), i, 82.

In 1622 James and Robert Browne made a settlement of the manor of Westhoughton and seventy messuages, &c., 1,000 acres of land, 300 acres of meadow, &c., in the township; *Pal. of Lanc. Feet of F. bble.* 101, no. 6.

James Browne held the manor by the twentieth part of a knight's fee at his death in 1633; Robert his son and heir was forty years of age; *Duchy of Lanc. Inq.* p.m. xxvii, no. 2. The will of James Browne was proved at Chester in 1633.

In 1636 Robert Browne of Brinsop and Richard Browne his son and heir conveyed to Christopher Anderton certain messuages on the north side of the king's highway between Manchester and Chorley; *Anderton D.* no. 116. In 1655 Westhoughton was counted among the Anderton of Lostock manors, but does not appear later; *ibid.* no. 123.

In 1665 Ralph Browne obtained a verdict against James Browne for depasturing; *Exch. of Pleas, Hil.* 16 & 17 Chas. II, m. 39. The will of Ralph Browne of Brinsop was proved at Chester in 1689.

Kuerden about 1690 speaks of the Browne of Ince near Wigan being brother of the Browne of Brinsop; *Local Glean. Lancs. and Ches.* i, 214.

The deforciantes in 1650 were Sir Thomas Smith, Dr. Edmund Mainwaring, and Peter Leycester, all Cheshire men, and probably trustees; *Pal. of Lanc. Feet of F. bble.* 149, m. 103.

²⁴ Recovery at the Lent Assizes, 1812; William Brown Brotherton and wife, and Thomas William Brown Brotherton, vouchees.

Disputes concerning the inclosing of the commons had occurred in the 17th century between Atherton and Brotherton; *Lancs. and Ches. Rec.* ii, 247, 293.

²⁵ Baines, *Lancs.* iii, 49, and information of Mr. William Roper. The Wilbraham estate consists of a number of farms acquired in various ways.

ried Margaret Roby. Their daughter Esther inherited it, and by marriage in 1749 conveyed it to her husband James Milnes of Wakefield; their son, also James Milnes, bequeathed it in 1805 to his cousin Benjamin Gaskell of Clifton in Eccles, whose grandson, Mr. Charles George Milnes Gaskell of Thornes House, Wakefield, is the present owner.²⁶

The change of tenure from monastic to secular lords was accompanied by a number of lawsuits respecting the customs of the manor.²⁷

The Pendlebury family, already mentioned, held *SNYDALE* of the lord of Manchester as early as 1212,²⁸

and appear to have retained it down to the end of the 16th century,²⁹ when it passed to the Worthingtons, who remained in possession for a century and a half.³⁰ On the bankruptcy of William Worthington in 1744 it was purchased by the Starkies of Huntroyde, who still retain it. No manorial rights are exercised.³¹



STARKIE of Huntroyde. *Argent a bend sable between six storks proper.*

²⁶ Information of Mr. Milnes Gaskell.

²⁷ Numerous references to these suits will be found in the *Ducatus Lanc.*

In 1553 James Browne complained that William Reeve and others had forcibly entered two messuages and 100 acres of land, parcel of his manor of Westhoughton, 'by reason of a feigned custom they call tenant right.' The defendants claimed common of pasture and turbary for fuel to be burnt in their tenement. William Pendlebury deposed that his father Nicholas had had a messuage and land for the 'town's term' of nineteen years, paying to the Abbot of Cockersand 14s. 10d. He had succeeded his father, and paid an 'earnest penny or God's penny,' and an entry penny, and was one of those affected by the settlement between the abbot and his tenants already mentioned. Others said that plaintiff was 'very covetous, cumbersome, insatiable, and extreme' with his tenants and farmers, and was trying to evade or upset the settlement. Plaintiff, who lived at Brinsop, denied this, and said that defendants, acting on bad advice, were troubling him needlessly. One of them had admitted that a scholar in his house, since gone to Cambridge, had advised him to say that 8s. he had paid was for a fine for his house, whereas it was for arrears of rent. Ralph Browne, brother of James, acted as his bailiff; *Duchy Plead.* iii, 145-51.

James Browne was again plaintiff in 1556, Adam Hulton and others being defendants. He claimed to have succeeded the Abbots of Cockersand as lords of the manor, and of the waste. Many improvements had been made, cottages and mills built, mostly long before the Dissolution. The abbots had held courts, taken perquisites and profits, and appointed constables and other officers. The defence attempted was that the lord of Manchester was the true lord of the manor and of the wastes, and that the Abbot of Cockersand had paid a chief rent of 18d. a year for his lands in Westhoughton; *Duchy of Lanc. Dep.* lxxiv, B. 2.

Probably as a consequence of this the jury at Manchester Court Leet in 1557 found that a rent of 18d. was due from the township of Westhoughton, but had been withheld; *Manch. Ct. Leet Rec.* i, 35. Nothing further is heard of this claim, James Browne having no doubt justified his title. The constables of Westhoughton were summoned to attend the Manchester court down to the end of the 17th century, but had ceased to appear; *ibid.* vi, 254.

From a summary of depositions made in 1588 it appears that the manor-house had been the grange of the Abbots of Cockersand. The decrees previously made against the alleged 'tenant right' were recited, and it was stated that the old name was

'town term.' Against the claim of custom the following reasons were alleged:—Most of the tenants had taken leases from James Browne the grandfather of the James Browne of 1588; a great part of the tenants were not the heirs in blood of the old tenants; many of the tenements had been inclosed from the waste; some tenants had assigned their tenements without the leave of the lord; most of them had committed waste; and many of the wives of deceased tenants and their heirs had not taken up their tenements within the prescribed twelve months; *Duchy of Lanc. Misc. bdl.* 3, no. 9.

²⁸ *Snydale* has taken many forms. Albert Grelley, jun. gave Ellis de Pendlebury 'Slieuhale' by 12d. or by a sorhawk a year, and Ellis held the land in 1212; *Inq. and Extents*, i, 58. From its position it appears to be the Suynul or Suinhul (? Sniuhul) of the *Cockersand Chbr.* (ii, 676-7), which Roger son of Adam de Pendlebury excepted from his grant to the abbey.

It should be noticed that the Pendleburys had lands also in Halliwell, of which there is a part called Smithills.

In 1320 Robert de Pendlebury held 'Smythell' for one sparrow-hawk or 12d.; *Mamecestre*, 290.

Isabel Hulton and Katherine her daughter in 1449 received £39 from the lands called *Snydale* in Westhoughton for the marriage of Katherine, from Sir Geoffrey Massey of Worsley and Margery his wife; *Ellesmere D.* no. 221.

Henry son of Robert de Pendlebury and Joan his wife had in 1363 and later years disputes with Hugh de Leigh, John de Leigh, and John son of Richard de Leigh, concerning messuages, &c., in Westhoughton; *De Banco R.* 413, m. 100; 418, m. 315 d.; 438, m. 209 d.

In 1532 Roger Pendlebury of Westhoughton was murdered in his house. An inquest was held, but, as his brother and heir William averred, by the favour and contrivance of Ralph Bradshagh the coroner, the jury found the crime had been committed in self-defence; *Duchy Plead.* ii, 51.

²⁹ Adam son of Roger Pendlebury in 1531 granted a lease of *Snydale* to Adam Hulton of the Park; *Towneley MS.* RR, n. 58.

In 1574 a settlement was made of a messuage, windmill, 40 acres of land, &c., in Westhoughton, by Roger and Ralph Pendlebury; after these the remainders were to William, Nicholas, Adam, Richard, and Lawrence Pendlebury in succession; *Pal. of Lanc. Feet of F. bdl.* 36, no. 83.

A sequel to this arrangement is given in *Duchy of Lanc. Plead.* clxv, P. 8. William, a son of Robert Pendlebury of 'Snythyll,' in 1595, alleged that Roger

Pendlebury, the son and heir of Robert, had been seised of the capital messuage called 'Snythull,' with barns, orchards, fishings, &c., in the parish of Deane. Having no sons, Roger settled the estate on his brothers successively—Ralph, William (plaintiff), Nicholas, Adam, Richard, and Lawrence. Ralph having died, Roger sold to Christopher Anderton the marriage of his daughter Anne, afterwards wife of James Worthington, with the reversion of the estate should Anne die childless. In 1613 James Worthington of Sneathell and Anne his wife had a son Ralph, twelve years of age; *Visit.* of 1613 (*Chet. Soc.*), 126; also *Visit.* of 1657 (*Chet. Soc.*), 28.

There was a recovery of *Snydale* in 1585, Christopher Anderton being tenant and Roger Pendlebury vouchee; *Anderton D.* no. 48. The marriage of Anne Pendlebury the daughter had been granted in 1580 as appears by an exemplification at the request of James Worthington; *ibid.* no. 74.

³⁰ The sale, or more probably mortgage, referred to in the last note, was made in 1584, ten years after the settlement, when Christopher Anderton acquired from Roger Pendlebury and Anne his wife the capital messuage called *Snythell*, with lands in Westhoughton and Golborne; *Pal. of Lanc. Feet of F. bdl.* 46, m. 190.

James Worthington, of 'Sneathell' and Barnard's Inn, a younger son of Lawrence Worthington of Crawshaw, married Anne, daughter and sole heir of Roger Pendlebury; *Visit.* of 1613 (*Chet. Soc.*), 126. He contributed to the subsidy as a landowner in 1622; *Misc. (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.)*, i, 160.

His son and heir Ralph was twelve years of age in 1613. Ralph Worthington of 'Smithells' was a member of the Presbyterian classis in 1646; *Baines, Lancs.* (ed. 1868), i, 227.

In 1690 William Worthington and Ralph, Peter, and John Worthington made a settlement of the 'manor of Westhoughton' and of messuages and lands there and in Thornton; *Pal. of Lanc. Feet of F. bdl.* 225, m. 53.

From William Worthington the tithes of 'Snydle or Snythill,' &c., were purchased in 1726-7 by William Leigh; *Piccope MSS.* (*Chet. Lib.*), iii, 234, from *Rolls 1 & 2 of Geo. II at Preston.*

William son of William Worthington of Bolton matriculated at Queen's College, Oxford, in 1739, being fifteen years of age; he proceeded to the B.A. degree; *Foster, Alumni Oxon.*

William Worthington was vouchee in a recovery of the manor in 1745; *Pal. of Lanc. Plea R.* 560, m. 8 d.

³¹ Information of Mr. Daniel Howsin of Padiham.

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Other families holding land here were the Bradshags,³³ Hultons,³³ Leighs,³⁴ Reeves,³⁵ and Molyneuxes.³⁶ Many other names may be gathered from rentals and inquisitions.³⁷

The only freeholders named in 1600 were James Browne, Robert Leigh, William Molyneux, and Thomas Richardson.³⁸ James Browne, James Worthington, and William Leigh contributed to the subsidy of 1622 as landowners.³⁹ In 1786 the principal

owners were the Duke of Bridgewater, — Milne, R. Wilbraham Bootle, William Hulton, — Starkie, — Worthington, the Misses Molyneux, and Thomas Green.⁴⁰

There was a dispute as to inclosures in 1631–2.⁴¹ The inclosure award, with two plans, may be seen at Preston.⁴²

Westhoughton was the scene of Luddite riots in 1812; four men were executed for joining in them.⁴³

³³ Adam son of Richard de Bradshagh in 1331 acquired a messuage and land; the remainders were to his brother Henry, and to Richard son of John de Bradshagh; *Final Conc.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), ii, 80.

³⁴ In 1311–12 Richard son of Richard de Hulton released to the abbey of Cocker-sand all his claim to wastes and pastures within Westhoughton, reserving common of pasture and reasonable estovers for himself and his tenants; *Hulton Ped.* 6.

Ellen daughter of John de Hulton granted to Hugh de Hulton and Agnes his wife her toft and croft called the Park and her meadow with appurtenances in Westhoughton; Towneley MS. RR., no. 103.

John son of Adam de Heaton in 1337 claimed a messuage and lands against Adam son of Richard de Hulton. The defendant said he held jointly with Roger his son, not named in the writ. The claim was not pursued; Assize R. 1424, m. 9; 1425, m. 2.

In later times lands in Snyderdale in Westhoughton were held also by the Hultons of Farnworth; *Duchy of Lanc. Inq. p.m.* iii, no. 26.

An agreement was made in 1521 between Adam Hulton of Hulton and William Hulton of Farnworth respecting lands in Westhoughton, Manchester, Barton, Lever, and Bolton; *Pal. of Lanc. Plea R.* 132, m. 6.

Adam Hulton, a tenant in 1556, mentioned in a previous note, was son of William and grandson of Adam Hulton. In 1597 Adam Hulton and Alice his wife made a grant of their messuage, &c.; *Pal. of Lanc. Feet of F. bde.* 58, m. 275.

³⁵ Kuerden has preserved short notes of some deeds of this family, but they are very unsatisfactory, dates being seldom given and no details of the lands concerned; iii, H. 4. Among them are grants from Hugh de Leigh to John his son and Margery daughter of Henry de Ainsworth, — *Edw. III* (no. 1); from Henry son of Laucoc son of Ranne (?) de Westhoughton to Richard son of John de Leigh, 12(?) *Edw. III* (6); from Mabel de Leigh to John de Leigh of Cheetham and his son Richard de Leigh of Westhoughton (9); from Robert de Pendlebury of Westhoughton to Richard de Leigh, 9 *Hen. VI* (16); from the trustee to Richard de Leigh, with remainders to his sons James, William, Roger, Thomas, Thurstan, and John, 23 *Hen. VI* (18); from the trustees to James Leigh, with remainders to Agnes daughter of Henry Hindley, for her life, and to Robert son and heir of John Leigh, ? *Hen. VII* (21, 22); from John Leigh, senior, to Robert his son and heir, 6 *Hen. VIII* (27); from Robert son and heir of John [Leigh] to trustees, with remainder to John his son (29); Robert Leigh was living in the reign of Philip & Mary (35).

From the Cockersand rentals it may be seen that Richard Leigh was a free tenant in 1451, his rent being 21d.; James

Leigh in 1461; and John Leigh in 1501 and 1536. John Leigh of Westhoughton, aged sixty and more, was witness in a tenant-right dispute in 1521; *Duchy Plead.* i, 108.

Robert Leigh son of John Leigh, and John Leigh grandson of John Leigh, were among the defendants in the dispute of 1556.

In 1571 ten messuages and land in Westhoughton, Duxbury, Chorley, and Hindley were the subject of a fine, the deforciant being John Leigh and Robert his son and heir, the latter's wife being named Anne; *Pal. of Lanc. Feet of F. bde.* 33, m. 49.

John Leigh of Westhoughton, who died in 1618, held lands of the lord of Westhoughton in socage by 12d. rent, the estate being six messuages, a water-mill, &c.; he also had lands in Hindley, Duxbury, and Chorley. William Leigh, his son and heir, was twenty-seven years of age; *Lancs. Inq. p.m.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), ii, 133.

This son was afterwards rector of Standish, and ancestor of the Leighs of Singleton Grange; Dugdale, *Visit.* 183. A later William Leigh occurs in 1686; *Excb. Dep.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), 67.

³⁶ James Reeve of Westhoughton, aged fifty-four, was a witness in 1521; *Duchy Plead.* i, 101. William Reeve, as already stated, was a defendant in 1553; *ibid.* iii, 145. Robert Reeve was frequently a juror in the time of James I; *Lancs. Inq. p.m.* i, 36, &c. He is probably the Robert Reeve who died in 1640, holding a messuage, &c., in Westhoughton of the lord of the manor, and another at Penketh; Richard his son and heir was fifty-three years of age; *Duchy of Lanc. Inq. p.m.* xxx, 37.

³⁷ From the Rentals it appears that in 1451 John Sale was one of the free tenants, paying 6s. 10d.; the wife of John Sale held the same in 1461; the wife of John Molyneux in 1501; and Henry Molyneux in 1536.

Robert Molyneux, who died in July 1545, held one messuage, &c., of James Browne as of his manor of Westhoughton, by services unknown, and another of the same by a rent of 6s. 10d.; he had married Anne daughter of Thomas Makand, and left a son and heir William, about four years old. Robert's father, William Molyneux of Mouldsworth, Cheshire, had held the above tenement, and another called Warcock Hill, which he sold to Roger Urmston of Lostock; *Duchy of Lanc. Inq. p.m.* ix, no. 32. In a later inquisition (1561) the service is called 'knight's service and the rent of 6s. 10d.'; Anne, the widow, was then living at Haigh, and William the son was nineteen years old and more; *ibid.* xi, no. 50.

William Molyneux, perhaps his son, was frequently a juror in the time of James I; *Lancs. Inq. p.m.* i, 28, &c.

Henry Molyneux of Westhoughton was in 1646 a member of the Presbyterian classis; Baines, *Lancs.* (ed. 1868), i, 227. His will was proved at Chester in 1662.

A number of allusions (about 1690) to Nathaniel Molyneux of Daisy Hill in Westhoughton and some of his letters will be found in Kenyon MSS. (*Hist. MSS. Com. Rep.* xiv, App. iv). He used 'to exchange broad money for narrow' (p. 174), according to an informer. His son Thomas matriculated at Christ Church, Oxford, in 1683, and entered Gray's Inn; *Foster, Alumni*. He was afterwards knighted. He married Margaret More, heiress of the Mores of Loseley, and died in 1719; see *G.E.C. Complete Baronetage*, ii, 176. His son, Sir More Molyneux, knighted in 1724, entered Corpus Christi College, Oxford, in 1709, aged nineteen; became a commissioner of excise, and died in 1769. His son, Thomas More Molyneux, of Wadham College, died in 1776; *Foster, Alumni Oxon.* In 1750 John Probyn purchased from Sir More Molyneux, Richard Wyatt and Susannah his wife, and Jane Molyneux, spinster, twelve messuages, 50 acres of meadow, &c., in Westhoughton and Great Bispham, and the manor and rectory of Westleigh; *Pal. of Lanc. Feet of F. bde.* 345, m. 85. For the later descents of the More Molyneux family see Burke, *Landed Gentry*.

³⁸ There were nine free tenants in 1251. In 1451 there were only five—John Sale, Richard Leigh, Richard Hodgkinson, Henry Isherwood, and Margery Chaddock. This arrangement was unaltered down to the Dissolution. Deeds of Richard Hodgkinson, in 1457, are recorded in *Dep. Keeper's Rep.* xxxvii, App. 175.

The inquisitions *post mortem* of Isabel Harrington (1519), Alexander Osbaldeston (1543), Roger Downes of Worsley (1639), and Ralph Holden (1634) show that they had had some lands in the township, but the tenures are not stated; *Duchy of Lanc. Inq. p.m.* v, no. 2; xxvii, no. 54; xxvii, no. 39. The heir of the last-named was his nephew James Holden, son of Richard; but Ralph had a son William. Francis Locker was in 1631 found to have held a messuage and lands of the king by the two-hundredth part of a knight's fee; Francis, his son and heir, was just of age; Janet, the widow, was living at Chorley; *ibid.* xxv, no. 40.

Some particulars of the Hart family's holding are given in *Duchy Plead.* ii, 157.

³⁹ *Misc.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), i, 246–9.

⁴⁰ *Ibid.* i, 160.

⁴¹ Land-tax returns at Preston.

⁴² Pleas of Crown, *Lanc. bde.* 330.

⁴³ The Inclosure Act is 11 Geo. I, cap. 32.

⁴⁴ See *Lancs. and Ches. Hist. and Gen. Notes*, iii, 80; *Manch. Guardian N. and Q.* no. 638, 660.

The canons of Cockersand probably **CHURCH** maintained a chaplain on their manor.

A chapel existed in 1552.⁴⁴ It was a small thatched building, which in 1731 gave place to a brick church;⁴⁵ this again was replaced in 1869-70 by the present church, known as St. Bartholomew's, built at the expense of John Seddon.⁴⁶ There was 'no service' there in 1605,⁴⁷ but this may have been a temporary cessation. The Commonwealth surveyors recommended that it should be made a parish church,⁴⁸ but nothing seems to have been done until 1860, when a district chapelry was formed.⁴⁹ The income is given as £442. The vicar of Deane is patron. The following have been curates and incumbents:—⁵⁰

- oc. 1627 John Ridgeley⁵¹
- oc. 1630 Alexander Horrocks⁵²
- 1651 John Isherwood⁵³
- oc. 1671 John Edleston
- 1696 — Wood
- 1700 Joseph Leese, B.A. (Christ's College)
- 1720 William Orme, B.A.
- 1732 Robert Harvey, B.A.⁵⁴
- 1755 John Chisnall, B.A.⁵⁵
- 1782 Thomas Whitehead, M.A. (Glasgow)⁵⁶
- 1788 Thomas Heys, M.A. (Oxford)⁵⁷
- 1816 Chris. Bateson, B.A. (Pembroke Coll.)
- 1825 Thomas Fogg, B.A. (St. John's College, Oxford)⁵⁸
- 1842 James Richard Alsop, B.A. (Brasenose College, Oxford)⁵⁹
- 1868 William Henry Rankin, M.A. (Corpus Christi College, Oxford)⁶⁰
- 1869 Kinton Jacques, M.A. (Brasenose College, Oxford)⁶¹
- 1890 Christopher Cronshaw⁶²
- 1908 George Henry St. Patrick Garrett, M.A., B.D. (T.C.D.)

Also in connexion with the Established Church, St. John the Evangelist's, Wingates, was built in 1858, and had a separate district assigned to it in 1860; the vicar of Deane is the patron.⁶³ St. James's, Daisy Hill, was opened in 1881; the Bishop of Manchester presents to it.⁶⁴

The Wesleyan Methodists have had a place of worship since 1785. The Primitive Methodists also have a chapel.

The Congregational Church at Westhoughton originated from preaching begun in 1811; a room was built in 1817, and another in 1826; after which a church was formed. In 1853 a chapel was built.⁶⁵

The Society of Friends began meetings here in 1806;⁶⁶ the meeting-house was built in 1823. A graveyard is attached.

In 1586 the vicar of Deane presented that 'divers priests' were harboured at the house of Ralph Holme of Chequerbent,⁶⁷ but apart from this there seems no record of the survival of the old religion in the township. The church of the Sacred Heart was built in 1894, replacing one opened in 1873.⁶⁸

A school was founded about 1740; another at Wingates in 1818.

OVER HULTON, MIDDLE HULTON, LITTLE HULTON

Helghetun and Hulton, 1235 (same document); Hilton, 1288, 1292; Hulton, 1292; the form Hilton continued in use till the xvii cent.

The ancient district of Hulton, having an area of 4,540 acres, in time became three townships. **OVER HULTON**, the western portion, has an area of 1,316 acres,¹ and measures about 2 miles from north to south, by a mile and a half across. Hulton Park occupies much of the southern part of the area. The ground slopes from about 500 ft. in the north to 300 ft. in the south.

The road from Deane and Bolton to Atherton and Warrington runs along the eastern boundary, and is crossed about the centre by that from Manchester and Walkden to Westhoughton and Blackrod. The crossing is marked by the hamlet of Hulton Lane Ends. To the north of the road are several collieries. The London and North Western Company's line from Bolton to Kenyon Junction passes along the north-western boundary. There is no

⁴⁴ The Royal Commissioners in 1552 found at the chapel 'a chalice and other ornaments for a priest to say mass in'; *Ch. Gds.* (Chet. Soc.), 27. The building itself was redeemed from the king's hands for 13s. 4d. or 20s.; Baines, *Lancs. Chanceries* (Chet. Soc.), ii, 277-8.

In Mary's reign tenants of Westhoughton complained that James Browne had caused an interruption of the service in the chapel; *Ducatus Lanc.* (Rec. Com.), i, 296.

⁴⁵ Gastrell, *Notitia* (Chet. Soc.), ii, 45. Bishop Gastrell found the certified income to be only 41s. 6d.; about £50 stock belonged to it, and the contributions had been as much as £20 a year. In 1719 it was augmented with land to the value of £200, taken from the common at inclosure; and there was a good house for the curate.

⁴⁶ *Bolton Journ.* 7 May 1887.

⁴⁷ Visit. P. at Chester.

⁴⁸ *Commonwealth Ch. Surv.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), 38; £40 a year had been appropriated to it from the tithes of Deane sequestered from Mr. Anderton.

⁴⁹ *Lond. Gaz.* 25 Jan. 1860; for endowments, *ibid.* 3 May 1844, and 14 Nov. 1873.

⁵⁰ The Church Papers at Chester Dioc. Reg. only begin in 1700. There was a curate summoned to the Visitation of 1562, but he had disappeared by 1565. There was 'a minister' there in 1635; his name is not recorded, but he would be Alexander Horrocks; *Misc.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), i, 112.

⁵¹ Raines MSS. (Chet. Lib.), xxii, 200; he was 'unlicensed and illiterate, and would not allow a Common Prayer book to lie in the chapel.'

⁵² Calling himself 'minister of the Gospel at Deane' he subscribed the 'Harmonious Consent' in 1648. Two years later he was described as a 'godly, orthodox divine'; *Commonwealth Ch. Surv.* ut sup. He is often said to have been vicar of Deane, but this seems to be a mistake; he was curate of Westhoughton (and Deane) and lecturer at the parish church. He died at Turton in 1650. See a notice of him, with his will, in *Pal. Note Bk.* iii, 23.

⁵³ *Plund. Mins. Accts.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), i, 104. After the Restoration James Bradshaw, formerly rector of Wigan and expelled from Macclesfield in 1662, used to preach in Westhoughton Chapel

occasionally; Bridgeman, *Wigan Ch.* (Chet. Soc.), 470.

⁵⁴ Will proved at Chester, 1755. He left £100 for the benefit of the township; this was applied to the school. He was curate of Horwich for part of the time.

⁵⁵ He had been curate of Walmsley in Turton and lecturer at Bolton; Scholes and Pimblett, *Bolton*, 330.

⁵⁶ He also had been lecturer at Bolton; *ibid.*

⁵⁷ Was curate also of Culcheth (q.v.), but resided at Westhoughton.

⁵⁸ Afterwards incumbent of Hornby.

⁵⁹ Author of *Faith and Practice*, &c.; afterwards vicar of Bednall.

⁶⁰ Rector of Meysey Hampton, 1869.

⁶¹ Afterwards rector of Brindle.

⁶² Previously vicar of St. Matthew's, Bolton. ⁶³ *Lond. Gaz.* 31 Mar. 1860.

⁶⁴ *Ibid.* 10 Feb. 1882 for district.

⁶⁵ Nightingale, *Lancs. Nonconf.* iv, 123.

⁶⁶ *Life of Jos. Buckley*, 97.

⁶⁷ Baines, *Lancs.* quoting Harl. MS. 360, fol. 32.

⁶⁸ Kelly, *Engl. Cath. Missions*, 425.

¹ 1,216, including 12 of inland water, according to the census of 1901.

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village. The population in 1901 was 1,038.³ Some portion of the area was in 1898 incorporated in the borough of Bolton, the remainder being added to Westhoughton.

MIDDLE HULTON, over 2 miles from north to south, and a mile and a quarter from east to west, has an area of 1,517 acres. In the northern half of the township a height of over 500 ft. is attained, but at the southern boundary the land is below the 300 ft. line.

The principal road is that from Manchester and Swinton to Westhoughton, which is joined by one from Farnworth passing west through the hamlets of Hollins and Edgefold. Several roads run from north to south. There is no village, but on the northern boundary dwellings are being built, which are an extension of Bolton. In 1901 its population was included with Rumworth.

This township was in 1898 added to the borough of Bolton.

LITTLE HULTON is of irregular shape, part of it cutting Walkden off from Farnworth. Its area is 1,707 acres.³ The surface slopes generally from 380 ft. in the north-west to less than 200 ft. above sea level in the south-east.

The principal road, through the centre of the township, is that from Manchester to Westhoughton—on the line of an old Roman road; from it others spread off to Farnworth on the north and Tyldesley on the south. Along it are dwelling-houses almost the whole way. The district called Peel occupies the centre of the southern half; Wharton lies in the south-west corner. The London and North Western Company's Bolton and Eccles line crosses the centre of the township, and has a station on the main road, called Little Hulton. There are a number of collieries in the township, and these are served by special railways. The population was 7,294 in 1901.⁴

A local board was formed in 1872,⁵ and this was in 1894 replaced by an urban district council, the twelve members being elected by two wards.

There are extensive collieries in Little Hulton and Middle Hulton.⁶

The hearth tax return of 1666 yields the following: In Over Hulton 41 hearths, with only one large house, that of William Hulton, 9 hearths; Middle Hulton, 66; Little Hulton, 102, the largest houses being those of Roger Kenyon, Margaret Mort, and Robert Mort, with 15, 14, and 6 respectively.⁷

The early history of the manor of **MANOR HULTON** is obscure. It was held by the Barton family, for the most part in conjunction with Worsley in thegnage.⁸ This was held under them by the Worsley family, who, as to part at least, came into possession about 1200.⁹ Their manor was described as three-fourths of Hulton;¹⁰ the remainder, two oxgangs, being the lordship of the Hulton family, in Over Hulton.

This last family is obviously of Welsh origin; the first Lancashire members of it—Iorwerth and Madoc, sons of Bleiddyn—are supposed to have been among the faithful vassals of Robert Banastre, expelled from Wales about 1167.¹¹ Iorwerth de Hulton held two oxgangs in Hulton, and received from King John, when Earl of Mortain, Broughton and Kersal Wood in Manchester.¹² Iorwerth was living in 1212, when he held in chief the vill of Pendleton, in exchange for Broughton.¹³ He had a numerous family,¹⁴ and dying in 1215¹⁵ was succeeded by his son Richard, who in 1219 had a lease of the Worsley portion of Hulton,¹⁶ and about the same time secured from Edith de Barton a confirmation of the two oxgangs in Hulton which his father had held of her; a rent of 2s. was payable.¹⁷ Richard also had a grant of land in Little Hulton from Richard de



HULTON of Hulton.
Argent a lion rampant
gules.

³ The Westhoughton portion only.
³ 1,699, including 39 of inland water; Census Rep. 1901. ⁴ Pop. Ret. 1901.

⁵ Lond. Gaz. 25 June 1872.

⁶ Baines' 1825 Directory shows a cotton-spinner in Little Hulton, a muslin manufacturer in Middle Hulton, and dimity and fustian manufacturers in Over Hulton.

⁷ Subs. R. bde. 250, no. 9, Lancs.

⁸ Lancs. Inq. and Extents (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), i, 65.

⁹ Hugh Putrell granted to Richard, son of Elias de Worsley half a plough-land in Worsley at the rent of 10s., and half a plough-land in Hulton at 6s. 8d.; *ibid.* i, 65 (from the Ellesmere D.). Hugh Putrell was the grantee of Edith de Barton in 1195 (*Lancs. Pipe R.* 94); but by 1212 the manors seem to have reverted to Edith and her husband Gilbert de Notton; *Lancs. Inq. and Extents*, loc. cit.

The Hulton 6s. 8d. was in the time of Elizabeth supposed to be the rent of Middle Hulton; Baines, *Lancs.* (ed. 1870), i, 447.

¹⁰ In 1323 the whole service of the manor of Worsley due to the chief lord was 20s.; and in 1385 it was stated that the manor of Worsley was held in socage by 13s. 4d. rent, and three-fourths of Hulton by 6s. 7d.; Ellesmere D. no. 162, 172; *Lancs. Inq. p.m.* (Chet. Soc.), i, 23.

¹¹ A pedigree of the Hulton family, containing illustrative documents, prepared by

the late William Adam Hulton of Penwortham and printed privately about 1840, has been used in these notes.

Iorwerth de Hulton and Madoc his brother were witnesses to a grant by Gilbert de Lymme; *Hulton Ped.* 48. Robert son of Iorwerth, son of Bleiddyn de Hulton, released lands to David de Hulton; *ibid.* 2. See *Final Conc.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), i, 216.

By a deed undated Llewelyn son of Madoc de Eueras granted to Griffith his firstborn son land in Hulton; Towneley MS. DD. no. 1288. Six of the witnesses have Welsh names, thus affording additional evidence of a foreign colony in the place. ¹² *Chart. R.* (Rec. Com.), 276.

¹³ *Lancs. Inq. and Extents*, i, 65.

¹⁴ Robert, one of his sons, has been mentioned above. Robert de Hulton and his son Robert attested a grant by Gilbert de Barton; *Wballely Couch.* (Chet. Soc.), i, 50. Ellen daughter of Robert de Hulton remitted all her right in 8 acres in Barton; *Hulton Ped.* 2. Jordan, a brother of Robert de Hulton (probably the younger Robert), was rector of Warrington; *Wballely Couch.* iii, 919.

Meuric and Meredith de Hulton are said to have been sons of Iorwerth. Roger son of Elias de Hulton granted to John son of Meuric de Hulton land between Willamhospittes and Bradebroch; *Hulton Ped.* 2. William son of Meredith de

Hulton released certain lands to Richard son of David de Hulton in 1297; *ibid.* 3.

Paulinus de Haughton granted to Cecily, daughter of Iorwerth de Hulton, a third part of Haughton; *Wballely Couch.* i, 59.

¹⁵ Farrer, *Lancs. Pipe R.* 252, 256. Richard, his son, owed 20 marks for relief of his father's lands.

¹⁶ *Final Conc.* i, 41. The six oxgangs had been pledged to Iorwerth de Hulton for a term which had expired in 1219. On Richard de Hulton acknowledging the title of Richard de Worsley, the latter leased them to him for seventeen years, at the end of which term the land was to return quietly to the Worsleys, 'unless in the mean time Richard de Hulton or his heirs, with good intent towards Richard de Worsley or his heirs, should do something whereby the land ought finally to remain to them.' An earlier suit respecting the matter, in which Iorwerth was defendant, is mentioned in *Curia Regis R.* 42 (1206), m. 18.

At a later time David son of Richard de Hulton gave to Richard son of Geoffrey de Worsley a formal release of any claim he might have in the six oxgangs; Ellesmere D. no. 41, 47.

¹⁷ *Hulton Ped.* 1. It should be noticed that the service due from Over Hulton to the lord of Manchester was in the 16th century a rent of 4d.

Worsley.¹⁸ He was serjeant of Salfordshire in 1222.¹⁹

Richard de Hulton died before 1230, leaving as heir his son Richard, then a minor.²⁰ This son appears to have died without issue, and was succeeded in turn by his brothers William and David, who married Beatrice and Agnes, daughters and co-heirs of Adam de Blackburn.²¹ To David de Hulton William de Ferrers, Earl of Derby, in 1251, granted his lands in Flixton and the manor of Ordsall.²² David had several children, and was still living in 1282.²³ About 1285 he died,²⁴ being succeeded by his son Richard,²⁵ who in 1304 obtained from Edward I a grant of free warren in all his lands of Hulton and Ordsall, also in Flixton and Heaton, outside the bounds of the royal forests.²⁶ The 'Park' long continued to be the distinctive name of the estate. Before 1312 he was followed by his son, another Richard.²⁷ At this point

there is some uncertainty in the succession. Richard son of the last-named Richard, being childless, effected a partition of the estates.²⁸ Farnworth and Rumworth went to one branch of the family, while Hulton, with lands in Westhoughton and Rumworth, were bestowed upon Richard de Hulton's uncle Adam,²⁹ from whom the hereditary succession is continuous to the present time; Ordsall with Flixton and Halliwell with Blackburn passed to different branches of the Radcliffe family.

Adam de Hulton was in possession in 1335, about two years after the grant by his nephew,³⁰ and a settlement was then made of his park in Hulton and Westhoughton, and his lands in Rumworth, Denton, and Manchester, with the manors, mills, and appurtenances. The occasion was the marriage of Adam's son Roger with Aline daughter of Adam de Lever.³¹ Roger had by 1355³² been succeeded by his son Roger, a minor,³³

¹⁸ *Hulton Ped.* 3. The grant included all the land between Holesyke and Wholewhicwaghe Brook and between Farnworth and Tyldesley, the service being a rent of 12d.; it was made when Sir William de Vernon was sheriff of Lancaster, apparently as early as 1204; *P.R.O. List*, 72.

¹⁹ *Lancs. Inq. and Extents*, i, 133.

²⁰ *Final Conc.* i, 121, quoting *Curia Regis* R. 107, m. 29 d., from which it appears that Robert de Hulton, being summoned to justify his assarts in the woods near Pendleton, adduced a charter of Richard de Hulton, and called Richard, son of the said Richard, to warrant him. Richard the son being a minor and in ward to the Earl of Chester, the case was adjourned.

This younger Richard is probably the Richard son of Christiana de Alreton who had four oxgangs of land in Heaton under Horwich in 1241.

²¹ *Final Conc.* loc. cit.; *Abram, Blackburn*, 251. As Beatrice widow of William de Hulton in 1256 claimed dower in the Hulton lands in Salfordshire, it would seem that William was the elder brother and that David had succeeded him. In Hulton itself he held two oxgangs of land, one in demesne and one tenanted by David son of Augerel.

David is said to have had two other brothers—Roger and John; the latter was rector of Radcliffe; *Hulton Ped.* 4.

²² *Gregson, Fragments*, 347.

²³ *Lancs. Inq. and Extents*, i, 249. His children are stated to have been Richard, Adam, Cecily, and John; *Hulton Ped.* 4. Cecily Daykins daughter of Hulton was a defendant in 1348; *Assize R.* 1444, m. 4.

²⁴ Agnes, David's widow, claimed dower in 1285; *De Banco R.* 59, m. 75.

²⁵ In 1297 Richard son and heir of David de Hulton made an agreement with Richard son and heir of Henry de Worsley, concerning an exchange of a mediety of Little Haughton for lands and easements in Hulton. The former received 5 acres in the Gulnecroft, lying next to his own land, and release of a road leading to his mansion; *Ellesmere D.* no. 53.

Richard de Hulton acted as a juror in 1299; *Inq. and Extents*, i, 305. In 1301 he withdrew a claim against Richard de Worsley and others respecting common of pasture in 100 acres of land, &c., in Hulton; *Assize R.* 1321, m. 12d. He granted land in Farnworth to William de Priestcroft; *Hulton Ped.* 4.

His wife Margery is said to have been a daughter of Robert de Radcliffe, and to have married secondly Geoffrey de Chaderton; *ibid.* 5.

²⁶ *Chart. R.* 97 (32 Edw. I), m. 2, no. 40.

²⁷ As early as 1294 Richard son of Richard son of David de Hulton received from Joan daughter of Austin Crosscliff lands in Halliwell, which she held of the Abbot of Cockersand; *Hulton Ped.* 5.

Richard, John, and Roger, sons of Richard de Hulton, attested a Sharples charter about 1307; *Harl. MS.* 2112, fol. 145/181.

In 1311–12, when Richard was evidently in possession of the lands, he released to the Abbot of Cockersand all his right in the wastes and pastures of Westhoughton, reserving, however, common of pasture and reasonable estovers for himself and his tenants; *Hulton Ped.* 6. He gave his brother John in 1325–6 certain lands in Hulton with reversion of the dower of his mother Margery in Westhoughton; *ibid.* 5.

In June 1311 agreements as to bounds and an exchange of lands in Hulton were made by Richard de Hulton (probably the son of Richard) and Richard de Worsley; *Cartelache* is named as the 'true division between Salfordshire and Derbyshire'; *Ellesmere D.* no. 56–7.

²⁸ In 1331 Richard son and heir of Richard de Hulton, in making a grant to Robert son of Adam de Hulton in Irlam, mentions his grandfather Richard; *De Trafford D.* no. 267.

In 1334 Richard de Hulton of Ordsall, convicted with others of having broken into the king's park at Igthenhill, received a pardon; *Coram Reg. R.* 298, Rex m. 2.

Richard de Hulton had a wife Maud, from whom he was divorced; *Assize R.* 438, m. 15 d.

Sir Nicholas de Langford in 1344 attempted to unsettle the disposition of the estates, alleging that Richard de Hulton had in 1334 granted him a rent of 200 marks, in case that he made an alienation without Nicholas's consent; *Assize R.* 1435, m. 40. Among the defendants were John de Hulton of Manchester and Roger de Atherton, who had received lands in Rumworth; Adam de Hulton and Avic his wife, who had twelve messuages, 200 acres of land, &c., in Hulton, two messuages, 40 acres of land, &c., in Westhoughton, and a messuage and land in Rumworth. The defence was that Richard

had made an enfeoffment of his lands with the advice of Sir Nicholas.

²⁹ In 1333 Richard de Hulton, lord of Ordsall, granted to his uncle Adam de Hulton and his heirs all the grantor's land in Westhoughton, with his manor and tenement in Hulton, and that part of his lands in Rumworth formerly held for life by Richard del Meadow; *Hulton Ped.* 6. The armorial seal shows the lion rampant, with the legend: *SI . RICARDI . DE . HULTVN.* Richard son of Richard de Hulton (perhaps of the Farnworth family) and Adam his brother attested a local charter in 1293; *Ellesmere D.* no. 49.

³⁰ Adam de Hulton was a plaintiff in 1333; *Cal. Pat.* 1330–4, p. 498.

In 1334 Richard son of Alexander de Denton claimed a fourth part of the manor of Denton against Adam son of Richard de Hulton and Avic his wife; *De Banco R.* 338, m. 126 d.

Adam and his sons Roger and Robert occur in 1343; *Cal. Close*, 1343–5, p. 82.

³¹ *Hulton Ped.* 7. There were remainders to Robert and Hugh, brothers of Roger. The lands in Denton and Manchester seem to have come to Adam de Hulton with his wife Avic; *ibid.*; a deed of 1316–17 being quoted.

Although the marriage of Roger the son was arranged in 1335, it does not seem to have taken place until 1346, when the parents of the parties agreed as to dower and maintenance; *ibid.* 8. Roger de Hulton was in 1343 found guilty of overthrowing John de Hulton's house at Rumworth; *Assize R.* 430, m. 18.

Adam de Hulton had two other sons named in a grant of 1347, by which Roger and Robert, already named, gave the reversion of a rent from Tyldesley to their brothers Adam and Lowe; *Hulton Ped.* 9.

³² Roger son of Roger de Hulton is found claiming the manor as early as 1356; *Duchy of Lanc. Assize R.* 5, m. 14, 18. He was called to warrant in 1355, being then a minor; *ibid.* R. 4, m. 4.

³³ Roger son of Roger de Hulton had the king's protection from all actions in 1371, on his setting out for Calais, in the retinue of Nicholas de Tamworth, captain of the town; *De Banco R.* 444, m. 34 d.

Roger de Hulton was living in 1389, when Hugh de Ince and others released all actions to him, his son Roger, William son of Adam de Hulton, &c.; *Hulton Ped.* 9.

In 1396–7 the feoffees of Roger de

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and his grandson Adam,³⁴ and Adam's son and heir Roger married Ellen daughter of John Hulton of Farnworth.³⁵ Their son Roger³⁶ had a son and successor, also Roger, who married Katherine, a daughter and co-heir of Sir James Harrington of Wolfage,³⁷ and had a son Adam, who married Alice, the daughter and heir of John Hulton of Farnworth.³⁸ From this time, and perhaps partly in consequence of the marriages named, the Hultons of the Park became more prominent, and soon outstripped their namesakes of Farnworth.

Adam Hulton was in 1523 summoned to take part in the Scottish expedition led by the Earl of Surrey.³⁹ Ten years later a short pedigree was recorded at the herald's visitation.⁴⁰ He was succeeded by his son William, who died in September 1555,⁴¹ leaving a son and heir Adam, married in infancy to Clemency daughter of Sir William Norris of Speke.⁴² Adam Hulton died in September 1572,⁴³ leaving a son and heir William, then of full age, who died in 1624,⁴⁴ having survived his son Adam⁴⁵ and grandson Wil-

Hulton restored to him his manor of Hulton, and lands there and in Westhoughton, &c., with remainder to Adam his son; and in 1404 Richard son of John de Hulton of Halliwell resigned to Roger son of Roger de Hulton various lands in Hulton, Westhoughton, and Rumworth which had belonged to Roger's father, Roger, and his grandfather Adam; *Hulton Ped.* 10.

William de Hilton, who, as a witness of the French wars, was called upon to give evidence in the Scrope-Grosvenor trial, was perhaps son of this Roger; *ibid.*; *Scrope-Grosvenor R.* 309.

³⁴ In Dec. 1417 the feoffees of Adam de Hulton restored to him the manor of Hulton, &c., with remainder to his son Roger, and a further remainder to the heirs male of Adam's father Roger; *Hulton Ped.* 11.

Adam's daughter Alice married Thomas de Culcheth in or about 1420; *ibid.*

³⁵ Ellen daughter of John Hulton and 'lately wife' of Roger Hulton of the Park, had lands in Nether Darwen, Bolton, and Rivington in 1459 (3 June 37 Hen. VI); *ibid.* 12.

In 1432 a settlement of boundaries was made between the lands of Sir Geoffrey Massey and those of Roger Hulton in Hulton and James Hulton in Rumworth; *Dep. Keeper's Rep.* xxiii, App. 33.

In 1437 Roger Hulton of the Park agreed with Thomas Tyldesley for the marriage of his daughter Alice with James son and heir apparent of Thomas; and in 1459 (17 Aug. 37 Hen. VI) Alice widow of James Tyldesley granted certain lands to Roger Hulton her father, Roger Hulton her brother, and Thurstan Tyldesley; *Hulton Ped.* 11-12. The last deed is perhaps dated 37 Hen. VI instead of 36 in error; in which case Roger Hulton, senior, died between 17 Aug. 1458 and 3 June 1459.

³⁶ From a deed quoted in the last note it is clear that Roger Hulton had a son Roger, perhaps the Roger Hulton who in 1458-9 arranged for the marriage of his daughter Agnes to Richard son of William Heaton; *ibid.* 14. Roger son and heir apparent of Roger Hulton of the Park was a trustee for Thomas Tyldesley in 1465; *Yates Evidences.*

³⁷ *Hulton Ped.* 14. A dispensation for the marriage of Roger Hulton and Katherine Harrington, related in the fourth degree, was granted by Paul II, and issued by the Bishop of Lichfield in Aug. 1469; *Lich. Epis. Reg.* xii, fol. 149b.

In 1500 Katherine, widow of Roger Hulton, had her dower in Denton.

In 1473 Roger Hulton held the manor of Middlewood in Hulton of the lord of Manchester by the twentieth part of a knight's fee and puture, a rent of 4d. and castleward 7d.; *Mamecestre*, 497.

³⁸ *Hulton Ped.* 15. The contract of marriage, made 20 Oct. 1485, shows that Roger, Adam's grandfather, was still liv-

ing; the father is described as Roger Hulton the younger of Hulton Park, and the mother Katherine is named. Adam was to be ready to wed Alice within ten years from the date of the contract; Roger promised to make an estate of 10 marks a year clear value in favour of Alice, and John Hulton would pay 80 marks to the parents of Adam.

The parties being related in the fourth degree through the marriage of Roger and Ellen Hulton above recorded, a dispensation was obtained from John de Giglis, papal commissary in England, in 1489, a competent donation being made to the crusade; *ibid.* 16.

³⁹ *Ibid.* 16; Adam Hulton had engaged to provide forty able men for the expedition.

⁴⁰ *Visit. of 1533* (Chet. Soc.), 209; three descents are recorded—Adam, his son William, and his grandson Adam, with a record of the marriages and the younger children.

Adam Hulton, squire, contributed to the subsidy of 1541 as for '£30 in lands'; *Misc.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), i, 141.

⁴¹ Duchy of Lanc. Inq. p.m. x, 40; *Hulton Ped.* 19. William Hulton died seised of the manor of Over Hulton, with messuages, lands, &c., in Over Hulton, Westhoughton, Manchester, and Denton: he had also possessed certain lands of the inheritance of William Hulton of Farnworth lying in Harpurhey, Denton, Openshaw, and Chorlton. The manor of Over Hulton and the lands in Westhoughton and Manchester were held of the lord of Manchester by a rent of 4d. Adam the son and heir was thirty-six years of age.

In 1556 after 'certain variances and debates' between Elizabeth widow of William Hulton and Adam Hulton the son and heir, Lord Mounteagle and his son were chosen to arbitrate concerning the widow's dower; among other things they decided that 'sixteen quarters of coals yearly [should] be laid upon the bank of the same coalpit, at [Adam's] own proper costs, to the use of the said Elizabeth for her natural life; and it [should] be lawful for the said Elizabeth to command her said tenants to lead yearly four quarters of coal to her house if she be resident within ten miles of Hulton Park'; *Hulton Ped.* 18.

⁴² The agreement for this marriage was made early in 1530, messuages, &c., in Wigan, Westhoughton, Hulton, and Denton to the value of £10 being given to trustees; *ibid.* 17; Norris D. (B.M.).

In 1561 Norroy King of Arms granted a crest to Adam Hulton; *Hulton Ped.* 21.

In 1565 Adam Hulton and Sir William Norris assigned lands in Harpurhey and Gatherswick for the use of Adam's daughter Margaret, she 'being very tender and young,' with reversion to Adam son of William son of Adam Hulton the grantor, and to William brother of the younger Adam; Norris D. (B.M.).

⁴³ Duchy of Lanc. Inq. p.m. xiii, 4; *Hulton Ped.* 21. There was no change in the lands recorded.

⁴⁴ *Manch. Cr. Leet Rec.* iii, 122; the date given in the Inq. p.m. of his grandson (7 Chas. I) is 2 Jan. 1628, which must be erroneous. He is said to have been eighty-four when he died, and had therefore seen the important changes in religion and dynasty which distinguished the times. William Hulton of the Park and his wife were in 1586 reported to be 'obstinate' in their adherence to the ancient faith; Baines, *Lancs.* from Harl. MS. 360, fol. 33.

Six years later one of the Government informers stated that 'Mr. Hulton of the Park hath this day a recusant to his schoolmaster whom he hath kept in house many years'; *Lydiat Hall*, 259 (from S.P. Dom. Eliz. cxcv). Margaret Hulton and Cuthbert her son, Mary Hulton and Elizabeth her daughter were presented as recusants in 1592; *Lancs. and Ches. Antiq. Soc.* xiii, 60. William Hulton of Hulton, esq. ('infirm') and Cuthbert Hulton were recusants in 1619; *Manch. Sess.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), i, 82.

In 1574 he was required to furnish a light horse, a caliver, and a morion for the county muster; *Gregson, Fragments*, 30.

A settlement of the manor of Over Hulton and the family lands was made by him in 1582; *Pal. of Lanc. Feet of F. bdle.* 44, m. 22.

William Hulton of Park was the only freeholder in the township named in 1600 and 1622; *Misc.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), i, 246, 160.

In his will, made in Aug. 1624, he confessed 'to die a true Christian Catholic,' and desired to be buried in his chapel in Deane Church, near the burial-place of Margaret his late wife. In fulfilment of a covenant made 1 Apr. 1557 between his father Adam and his mother-in-law Elizabeth Kighley of Lightshaw, he directed that certain of his goods should be regarded as heirlooms; they included two standing beds in Pendlebury chamber, valued at £5; *Hulton Ped.* 22.

The writ of *Diem clausit extr.* after the death of William Hulton is dated 16 June 1625; *ibid.* 25.

⁴⁵ Adam Hulton, of Brasenose College, Oxford, matriculated in 1579, aged fifteen; and his brother William two years later; Foster, *Alumni Oxon.* There is a reference to him in *Ducatus Lanc.* (Rec. Com.), iii, 504.

Adam died in Dec. 1597, and was buried in the collegiate church at Manchester; he had married Alice daughter of William Baguley, of Manchester, clothier, and his son and heir William, then ten years old, came of age in or before 1612; *Manch. Ct. Leet Rec.* ii, 275; Duchy of Lanc. Inq. p.m. xvii, 80. He had a messuage in Deansgate, Manchester, in right of his wife, whose mother Ellen Baguley was a widow in 1587; *Hulton Ped.* i, 24.

liam;⁴⁶ his successor was his great-grandson Adam, born in 1607.

Adam Hulton had livery of his lands in November 1632,⁴⁷ and died in 1652.⁴⁸ He does not appear to have taken any part in the Civil War on one side or the other.⁴⁹ His son and heir William contested the borough of Clitheroe in April 1660; he had a majority of the free burgesses in opposition to William White, elected by the freemen at large, and the latter being unseated on petition, William Hulton represented the borough from July to December 1660.⁵⁰ He recorded a pedigree at the visitation of 1664.⁵¹ He died thirty years later,⁵² being succeeded by his son Henry,⁵³ who died childless in 1737. The manor

then passed to William son of Jessop Hulton, Henry's younger brother,⁵⁴ who was in turn succeeded by his son, grandson, and great-grandson, each named William.⁵⁵ The last of these, sheriff of Lancashire in 1810, and constable of Lancaster Castle, died in 1864; his son and heir, William Ford Hulton,⁵⁶ dying in 1879, was followed by his son Sir William Wilbraham Blethin Hulton, also constable of Lancaster Castle, created a baronet in 1905.⁵⁷ He died in 1907, and was succeeded by his son Sir William Rothwell Hulton, the present lord of the manor.

A number of deeds and other records have been preserved, showing how the Worsleys and their successors dealt with their estate in Hulton.⁵⁸ It has

⁴⁶ William Hulton the younger, described as 'of Manchester, gentleman,' died 6 Sept. 1613 holding Harpurhey and other lands near Manchester, as well as some in Hulton, Farnworth, Heaton, and Wigan; those in Hulton and Farnworth were held of the lord of Manchester by the hundredth part of a knight's fee. In 1610 he engaged that before Whitsuntide 1612 he would provide for the jointure of his wife Katherine daughter of Robert Hyde of Norbury in Cheshire, mention being made of 'mines of coal and cannel' on his land. Adam Hulton the son and heir was six years of age on 5 July 1613; *Lancs. Inq. p.m.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), i, 265.

Some time after the death of William Hulton a further inquisition was taken (1631), and it was found that the manor of Over Hulton, with a capital messuage called the Park, with messuages, orchards, lands, dove-house, two water-mills, &c., was held of Rowland Mosley as of his manor of Manchester; there were other lands in Westhoughton and Rumworth, also held of the manor of Manchester. In default of heirs male of William Hulton the grandson, the remainders were to William, Robert, Henry, and Rowland Hulton, younger sons of William Hulton the grandfather; *Duchy of Lanc. Inq. p.m.* xxv, 20. Katherine widow of William Hulton the grandson was living at Todmorden in 1631. She married Saville Radcliffe, called 'father' in Adam Hulton's will.

⁴⁷ *Hulton Ped.* 26. The endorsement of the writ has 'Adamus Hulton, infra etatem,' though if the inquisition of 1613 is correct he must in 1632 have been twenty-five years of age.

⁴⁸ *Ibid.* where his will is printed in full; his son William was the principal legatee, but his 'mother Radcliffe' and other relations are mentioned.

⁴⁹ Either Adam or his brother Edward (stated to have died in 1645) was a captain in the Parliamentary army, for in Jan. 1643-4 a correspondent of George Rigby of Peel mentions that 'Captain Hilton, your brother-in-law,' was then a prisoner at Chester; it was proposed to exchange him 'for one Mr. Browne, a minister, now prisoner at Manchester'; *Hist. MSS. Com. Rep.* xiv, App. iv, 61. John Hulton of Darley also stated about the same time that 'the last man living upon my land that was able to bear arms is with Captain Hulton's company'; *ibid.* 63.

⁵⁰ Pink and Beaven, *Parl. Rep. of Lancs.* 253.

⁵¹ Dugdale, *Visit.* (Chet. Soc.), 159; this records William Hulton's age as thirty-eight, and states that his son William

(not entered in the printed Pedigree) was then five years of age.

⁵² He seems to be the 'Mr. Hulton' frequently mentioned in Henry Newcome's *Diary and Autobiography* (Chet. Soc.). He sympathized with the persecuted Nonconformists of the time; Oliver Heywood, *Diaries*, i, 197. By his will he devised all his estates at Hulton and elsewhere in Lancashire and at Bryanstown in Westmeath to his eldest son Henry and heirs male; then to his other sons Jessop, Charles, Francis, and Edward successively in tail male; *Hulton Ped.* 28.

⁵³ His name occurs in the list of 'Papists' estates returned in the time of George I; *Lancs. and Ches. Rec.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), i, 195.

⁵⁴ Upon the death of William the testator his eldest son Henry entered on the several estates devised to him as aforesaid and continued in possession thereof till his death, which happened in the end of the year 1737, when he died without issue, having a short time before his death married Eleanor Copley. Jessop, the second son, died in the life of his brother, and left issue one son, William. Charles, Francis, and Edward also died in the life of Henry, without issue. Upon the death of Henry the said William Hulton the son of Jessop entered into possession of the several estates descended to him, and his uncles Charles, Francis, and Edward having all died without issue, the remainder in fee expectant, as well as the estate tail, vested in him'; *Hulton Ped.* quoting an old abstract of title.

In 1740 he made a settlement of the manors and lands of Over Hulton, Rumworth, Farnworth, Kearsley, Denton, Longworth, and Clegg Hall in Butterworth; *ibid.* 29; *Pal. of Lanc. Feet of F. bdle.* 321, m. 3.

William Hulton died in April 1741, aged twenty-five.

⁵⁵ William Hulton, only son of the last-named William, matriculated from Brasenose College, Oxford, in 1757, being seventeen years of age; Foster, *Alumni*. In 1763 he made an arrangement with his mother and her second husband (Edward Clowes of Manchester) regarding lands in Hulton and Westhoughton; *Pal. of Lanc. Feet of F. bdle.* 369, m. 89.

In 1772 an Act was passed to enable him to charge his settled estates in Lancashire as a provision for his wife (Ann Hall) and younger children. The timber growing upon the manors of Westhoughton, Harpurhey, and Denton was valued at £4,200; *Hulton Ped.* 29. He died in the following year.

One of his sons, Henry (born 1765, died 1831), entered Christ Church, Oxford, in 1784, and became Captain 1st

Royals and afterwards lieutenant-colonel commandant of Lower Blackburn local militia, and treasurer of the county, had a son William Adam Hulton (1802-87), barrister and judge of the county court, who compiled the *Hulton Pedigree* already quoted, and edited the *Wballe Couber* for the Chetham Society; a notice of him will be found in the *Dict. Nat. Biog.*

William Hulton son of the above-named William was sheriff of Lancashire in 1789, and died in 1800. His son and heir William matriculated from Brasenose College in 1804, aged seventeen, and was created M.A. in 1807; Foster, *Alumni*. For recoveries of the Hulton manors in 1783 and 1809 see *Pal. of Lanc. Plea R.* 638; *Assize R. Lent 49 Geo. III* (R. 9).

⁵⁶ Of Christ Church, Oxford, 1830; Foster, *Alumni*.

⁵⁷ See also Foster, *Lancs. Pedigrees*; Burke, *Commoners*, iv, 29; Burke, *Landed Gentry*; and Baines, *Lancs.* (ed. Croston), iii, 138.

⁵⁸ In 1292 Joan daughter of Richard de Worsley claimed the manor of Hulton against Henry de Worsley and John de Brunscales. Her right being acknowledged it was agreed that 'Henry should find all necessities, as in sustenance and clothing, for the said Joan at his house during the term' of two years, for which he had a lease of the manor, and then pay her 80 marks, 'for which she granted that the manor should wholly remain to him and his heirs in perpetuity'; *Assize R.* 408, m. 30 d.

In 1305 Margaret widow of Henry de Worsley claimed dower in Hulton from Henry son of Richard son of Henry de Worsley; she had married Robert son of Richard de Radcliffe; *De Banco R.* 153, m. 124; *R.* 156, m. 92; *R.* 159, m. 98; 182 d.; *R.* 161, m. 92, 155.

In May 1341 Geoffrey son of Henry de Worsley came to Hulton with force and arms, entered his father's house, and broke the beer barrels, consuming beer to the value of 4s.; he also broke the hedges of Richard de Hulton of the Wich; *Assize R.* 430, m. 16.

In 1350 Alice widow of Henry de Worsley sought dower in Hulton against Amabel widow of Geoffrey de Worsley; Geoffrey, the kinsman and heir of Henry, though a minor, warranted Amabel, and it was ordered that Alice should have equal lands as her dower; *De Banco R.* 363, m. 107. See also *Duchy of Lanc. Assize R.* 7, m. 7 (Lent 1359), at which time Amabel was the wife of John le Comyn of Newbold.

The Worsley family acquired lands from the smaller holders. Thus Richard de Worsley repurchased from Richard

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come down, in the same manner as Worsley, to the Earl of Ellesmere.⁵⁹

In this part of the manor were several subordinate estates or manors. *WHARTON* or Warton gave its name to the family owning it,⁶⁰ and was afterwards held by the Asshetons of Great Lever and the Morts.⁶¹ It was sold to a colliery company,⁶² and is now owned by the Earl of Ellesmere.⁶³ Wharton Hall is a two-story farm-house of brick and timber and plaster construction, facing south. The plan follows the usual type of a central block with gabled projecting wings east and west. The house is in a moderate state of repair, and the half-timber work in the lower part of the east wing, which is coved at the level of the first floor, is original. The north wing is faced

in brick, the upper part of which is painted to represent half-timber work, and the gable and upper part of the east wing is similarly treated. The west wing has been extended westward and the pitch of the roof altered, but the line of the old gable still remains at each end. The house has been almost entirely re-faced in brick, but the original timber construction shows at both ends of the west wing. With its yellow-washed walls, grey stone slate roofs and red brick chimneys, the house has rather a picturesque if tumble-down appearance, emphasized to some extent on the back by the addition of low modern out-buildings.

PEEL, or Wicheves, was in the 13th century acquired by a branch of the Hulton family,⁶⁴ who

son of John de Hulton land, called the Mere, which his father Geoffrey had sold to John de Hulton, and of which the latter's son Robert was the tenant. The purchase included all the vendor's rights in Hulton except housebote and heybote in the wood for 'his man' dwelling in Baldman's Head; Ellesmere D. no. 46. This also was acquired by Henry son of Richard de Worsley in 1293; *ibid.* no. 39.

The above-named Robert son of John de Hulton left a widow Maud and daughters Margaret, Ellen, Maud, and Margery; and a part of his land was given to Margaret in 1293 on her marriage with Richard 'called the Legate' of Ince; in 1334 Margaret daughter of Robert de Hulton released to Henry de Worsley all her right in Hulton; *ibid.* no. 49, 58.

Geoffrey de Worsley granted to David son of Henry the Knight lands within bounds starting at David's house and going by the Out Lane (Hot Lane) to the brook coming down from the hall; then by the brook and clough and ditch to the starting-point; also land called Cookman Croft; the rent for all to be 2s.; *ibid.* no. 48. David afterwards gave the land to his eldest son Adam; no. 42.

John son of Richard de Bradshaw gave all his lands in Hulton to Geoffrey son of Thomas son of Litkoc de Salford; and in 1307 Geoffrey sold it to Henry de Worsley; *ibid.* no. 44, 55.

Henry de Worsley in 1296 gave the mill of Hulton to his son and heir Richard and Margaret his wife; *ibid.* no. 51.

Alice widow of Henry de Worsley in 1354 gave her life interest in the demesne of Wood Hall in Hulton (*viz.* in Wood Hey and Moor Hey) to Thomas Thirlwind and Alice his wife at a rent of 23s.; the grant included pasturage, mast, profits of sparrow-hawks, bees, &c., and wood for building and burning; *ibid.* no. 59. She had a further rent of 12s. from land tenanted by William de Shakerley and Margaret his wife; *ibid.* no. 60.

Hulton Hey, a piece of inclosed pasture, was the subject of grants in 1467 and 1484 by William Massey and Sir Geoffrey Massey respectively; *ibid.* no. 70, 71.

The lessees in 1484 had leave to build and marl on the ground 'at their own oversight,' while Sir Geoffrey undertook to maintain the hedges and ditches. The rent was a peppercorn for four years, and then 5 marks a year. See also *Ducatus Lanc.* (Rec. Com.), ii, 21.

In 1556-7 Richard Brereton and Joan his wife and Adam Hulton, as holders of Hulton Moor, were summoned to answer Robert Grundy of Rumworth for a seizure of his cattle on what he alleged to be Rum-

worth Moor; *Pal. of Lanc. Plea R.* 201, m. 11.

⁵⁹ See the account of Worsley.

⁶⁰ Some early deeds of the Wartons (or Wauertons) are given in Towneley's MS. DD, no. 939-44. Gilbert de Warton was witness to an early Worsley charter; no. 951. William son of John de Warton about 1310 gave lands to John son of William de Warton. In 1335 William's son and heir Thomas married Margaret, daughter of John de Chisenhale.

In 1356 John de Warton claimed a messuage and land in Wharton by Eccles against Hugh de Rylands; Duchy of Lanc. Assize R. 5, m. 4. Denis de Warton attested deeds in 1407; De Trafford D. no. 302, 303; and one of the same name, if not the same person, a Hulton yeoman, occurs in 1444; *Pal. of Lanc. Plea R.* 3, m. 16.

Denis Warton in 1446 granted to feoffees, including his son John, all his lands in Tyldesley and Hulton. He had received them in 1440 from the trustee of his brother John, the heir apparent being Ralph son of Denis. Ralph Warton in 1469 granted to Katherine his wife, daughter of John Bradshagh, deceased, various lands in Hulton lying to the north of the highway from Blacklow to Walkden Moor and between Hollow Syke and Goodrich Brook; together with the 2s. service of William Warton for the Intake. These notes are from the Yates Evidences.

Robert Langton in 1587 purchased from William Warton five messuages, a windmill, dovecote, lands, &c.; and four years later Richard Ashton of Mawdsley and Jane his wife were in possession; *Pal. of Lanc. Feet of F. bde.* 49, m. 44; *bde.* 53, m. 87.

William Warton's difficulties are said to have arisen from his adhesion to the old religion. He is described as 'attainted' in leases of his possessions by the Crown in 1593 and 1595; *Pat.* 35 Eliz. pt. iv; 37 Eliz. pt. ix.

⁶¹ Ralph Assheton of Great Lever, who died in 1616, held 'the manor, lordship, or capital messuage called Warton hall' of Sir Peter Legh and Dorothy his wife (heiress of Worsley), by fealty and the rent of a pair of gloves, price 4d. each of them; *Lancs. Inq. p.m.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), ii, 289.

Robert Mort, a strict Nonconformist, owned it in the second half of the 17th century. He was about to leave for America in 1688, when the Revolution occurred and promised a cessation of the persecutions to which he had been subjected for religion. Matthew Henry called him 'one of the greatest examples

of humility, charity, and primitive Christianity that our age has known.' He was followed by his son Nathan, whose son John, born in 1702, removed to Chowbent, where he carried on a fustian cutting business; he was 'an active member of the society of Unitarian Christians at Chowbent, and was noted for his piety and benevolence'; *Pal. Note Bk.* iii, 251, where is a notice of his funeral sermon.

Nathan Mort, who died about 1723, was succeeded by his son Adam, who died about 1730, leaving his daughter Mary his heiress. She married Thomas Earle of Liverpool and died in 1785, leaving two daughters to inherit Wharton Hall and the other Mort estates. The elder daughter Maria married her cousin Thomas Earle of Spekeldands; and the younger married Richard Gwilym of Bewsey; *Trans. Hist. Soc.* (new ser.), vi, 76, 39, 44.

⁶² It was about 1870 sold by the Earles and Gwilyms to John Gerard Potter and others, who formed the Wharton Hall Collieries Co., Ltd., and worked the mines.

⁶³ The Bridgewater Trustees purchased it from the Colliery Company in 1881. The information in this and the preceding note is due to Mr. Strachan Holme, Walkden.

⁶⁴ Gilbert de Lymme, with the assent of his wife Jocasta, granted to Maurice son of Ithel land in the Wich, with bounds beginning at Fairhurst Brook and going up to the middle of Wichard, thence by the bounds of Farnworth to Alrenehead, and down Wichshaw to the bounds of Tyldesley; *Hulton Ped.* 48 (from the Yates Evidences). Alice daughter of Gilbert released her right in the same to Richard de Wicheves; Yates Evidences.

Henry de Tyldesley granted to Richard son of John de Hulton [of Farnworth] certain lands in Tyldesley, the bounds of which began at Herbertsclough, followed Cartlache to Wich Brook, and by this to Cartlache and Fairhurst Syke, and thence back by the marked oaks to the starting point; *Hulton Ped.* 33. This land in Tyldesley adjoined Wicheves, the estate which gave a surname to Richard.

Henry de Worsley in 1299 granted to Richard son of Richard son of John de Hulton all his land in the Wyt [Wich] between Hulton and Worsley as described in the charter from Gilbert de Lymme and Jocasta his wife to Thomas their son; *Ellesmere D.* no. 54.

Thomas de Lymme granted land in Wicheves to John son of Meuric, at a rent of 2s.; Yates Evidences.

Henry son of Henry de Tyldesley granted a rent of 18d. from the hey called

appear to have sold it to the Tyldesleys.⁶⁵ From these it passed to Edmund Fleetwood of Rossall,⁶⁶ and afterwards to the Morts. About the middle of the 18th century Joseph Yates of Manchester purchased it,⁶⁷ and about seventy years later his descendants sold it to Ellis Fletcher of Clifton, a colliery proprietor.⁶⁸ Peel Hall is a modern house erected in 1840 by Matthew Fletcher, from the designs of Sir Charles Barry. It stands in the site of an older hall which was a stone building consisting of a centre and two wings with three gables to the front. All that is left of the old hall is part of the moat, which has been made into an ornamental lake.^{68a}



RIGBY. *Argent on a cross flory azure five mullets or.*



KENYON, Lord Kenyon. *Sable a chevron engrailed or between three crosses flory argent.*

about 1600 in the possession of Alexander Rigby; he gave it to a younger son George,⁷⁰ whose daughter and heir, Alice,⁷¹ brought it to her husband Roger Kenyon of Parkhead and his descendants, the present owner being Lord Kenyon of Gredington.⁷²

Kenyon Peel Hall is situated about a quarter of a mile south of the ancient highway, running from Manchester in a north-west direction towards Bolton, and is on the southern slope of the high ground lying between the valley of the Irwell on the north and Chat Moss on the south. Before the locality was given over to collieries and manufacture the situation must have been a pleasant one, but today the house lies amidst surroundings which have

the Ral to Richard son of John son of Meuric; *Hulton Ped.* 48. Henry son of Henry de Tyldesley was defendant in a Hulton suit in 1313-14; *Assize R.* 424, m. 4 d.

Hawise, as widow of Richard de Wicheves, demised to Henry son of John de Hulton her right in the Hope Hey in Wicheves in the vill of Worsley; *Hulton Ped.* 34. Hawise is said to have been a daughter of Gilbert de Lymme. Richard son of Richard son of John de Hulton in 1295 released to the same Henry de Hulton all his right in the Hope Hey, held of Gilbert de Lymme and his heirs by the rent of a rose; *ibid.* At the same time John son of Hugh de Hulton released to Henry his uncle his land in Wicheves in the Hope Hey, the bounds touching those of Farnworth at one point; *ibid.* Joan widow of Adam son of Richard de Hulton of the Wicheves in 1336 released to her father-in-law all her dower lands in Worsley and Tyldesley; *ibid.* 35.

⁶⁵ The Peel of Hulton is named as early as 1395 among the lands of Thomas son of Henry de Tyldesley, whose son Peter appears to have married Maud daughter of Richard Mort; Yates Evidences.

In 1465 Thomas son and heir of James Tyldesley, who was son and heir of Thomas Tyldesley, was a minor in ward to Sir Geoffrey Massey of Worsley; *ibid.* James Tyldesley had married Alice daughter of Roger Hulton of the Park; the contract is dated 1437; *Hulton Ped.* 12.

Thomas Tyldesley of the Peel in 1501 leased the Fennyslack in Worsley to James son of Thomas Mort; *ibid.* In 1523 the feoffees of Thomas Tyldesley made provision for an annuity for Elizabeth his wife; *ibid.*

The wardship and marriage of Thomas son and heir of James Tyldesley of Peel was claimed by Sir John Brereton in 1530; *Ellesmere D.* no. 76.

To Lora Browne, widow, formerly wife of the above-named James Tyldesley, dower was assigned in 1546 from the lands of William Tyldesley of the Peel of Hulton, or Wicheves Hall, with ten messuages, a water-mill, &c.; *Pal. of Lanc.* Feet of F. bde. 12, m. 278.

⁶⁶ In 1550 William Tyldesley seems to have mortgaged or sold his estate, Robert Fleetwood and John Stokes being plaintiffs in a fine of that year; *ibid.* bde. 14, m. 153. Thirty years later Edmund Fleet-

wood, esq. was in possession; *ibid.* bde. 42, m. 39. From the Yates deeds it is evident that Edmund Fleetwood was owner in 1574, Thomas Mort of Dam-house being in possession. Edmund Fleetwood of Rossall died in 1622, holding a capital messuage with 120 acres in Worsley and Little Hulton of the lord of Worsley; *Lancs. Inq. p.m.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), iii, 316.

⁶⁷ For a notice of this family see Abram, *Blackburn*, 408, 409; also Baines, *Lancs.* (ed. Croston), iii, 150. Joseph Yates of Manchester married Ellen daughter and co-heir of William Maghull of Maghull; he died in 1773, and his eldest son having left three daughters the Peel estate passed to the heir of his younger son, Sir Joseph Yates, justice of the King's Bench, and afterwards of the Common Pleas. Sir Joseph had settled at Cheam in Surrey, and was buried there in 1770; *Foss, Judges*; *Dict. Nat. Biog.* His son Joseph sold Peel to Ellis Fletcher. Some deeds relating to the estate are given in *Harl. MS.* 2112, fol. 147.

The Rev. William Allen, author of *Collectanea Latina*, at one time resided in the house. He was minister of Peel Chapel, and had a boarding school.

⁶⁸ From Ellis Fletcher it has descended to his granddaughter, Mrs. Wynne Corrie. She married the Hon. Robert Wellington Stapleton Cotton, son of Lord Combermere, but was divorced in 1879. There was no issue of this marriage. She afterwards married Mr. Wynne Corrie; *Burke, Family Rec.* 181. See also the account of Clifton in *Eccles.*

^{68a} *Trans. Antiq. Soc.* xvii, 242.

⁶⁹ For a view see N. G. Philips, *Old Halls of Lancs. and Ches.* 57.

⁷⁰ Leonard Asshaw of Shaw in Flixton was in 1595 found to have held lands in Hulton of the lord of Worsley; *Duchy of Lancs. Inq. p.m.* xvi, 11. A daughter married Alexander Rigby, who appears to have had her portion in Hulton; *Ducatus Lancs.* (Rec. Com.), iii, 332, 350.

Alexander Rigby of Goosnargh, who died in 1621, held a messuage and lands in Hulton and Tyldesley, which with land in Turton he gave to his younger son, George Rigby; *Lancs. Inq. p.m.* (Rec. Soc.) iii, 458.

⁷¹ Alice Rigby, spinster, made a settlement of the manor of Peel, with lands in Over Hulton, Little Hulton (otherwise Lowest Hulton), Worsley, Goosnargh, Turton, Wigan, Hopwood, Thornton near

Chadderton, Clayden, Manchester, Hundersfield, Rochdale, and Rivington; *Pal. of Lanc. Feet of F. bde.* 160, m. 63. A further settlement was made in 1680 by Roger Kenyon, Alice his wife, Leftwich Oldfield, Alice his wife, and Jane Harworth, widow; *ibid.* bde. 202, m. 101.

⁷² *Dugdale, Visit.* 166; Abram, *Blackburn*, 752. Roger Kenyon made Peel his residence. He represented Clitheroe in Parliament from 1690 to 1695 as a Tory; *Pink and Beaven*, op. cit. 257. He was also clerk of the peace for Lancashire and Governor of the Isle of Man; a very large amount of information about him is contained in the *Hist. MSS. Com. Rep.* xiv, App. iv, *passim*. His eldest son Roger, named at the Visitation of 1664, died before him, and George Kenyon, a younger son, Tory representative of Wigan from 1710 to 1714 (*Pink and Beaven*, 232) succeeded to Peel. A third son, Thomas, was grandfather of Lloyd Kenyon, successively Attorney General, Master of the Rolls, and Lord Chief Justice, created a baronet in 1784, and raised to the peerage as Baron Kenyon of Gredington in 1788; see Kenyon MSS.; *Life*, by the Hon. George Kenyon; *Foss, Judges*; *Dict. Nat. Biog.*


George Kenyon married his cousin Ann daughter of Edward Kenyon, rector of Prestwich, and dying in 1728, was succeeded by his son and grandson, both named George. Roger and George Kenyon sons of George Kenyon, a lawyer, entered St. John's College, Cambridge, in 1719, being aged seventeen and sixteen respectively; *R. F. Scott, Admissions*, iii, 17. The last George Kenyon, who died in 1770, left several daughters, co-heirs, of whom the eldest married Sir Thomas Hanmer, bart. The first Lord Kenyon married Mary daughter of the second George Kenyon—cousin by both father and mother; and his son, the second lord, also married a cousin, Margaret Emma, daughter of Sir Thomas and Lady Hanmer. Their grandson, the present Lord Kenyon, is the owner of Peel Hall. Alice Kenyon, sister of Mary, Lady Kenyon, held Peel Hall till her death in 1836, when it passed to her nephew, the second Lord Kenyon. For an account of the family see G.E.C. *Complete Peerage*, iv, 358-60; also pedigree, Baines, *Lancs.* (ed. Croston), iii, 148, and Piccope's MS. Pedigrees (Chet. Lib.), i, 218. See also *Pal. Note Bk.* iv, 56, 143.

A HISTORY OF LANCASHIRE

robbed the country of any of the beauties it formerly possessed.

The house appears to have been built about the years 1631 to 1634. Both dates are on the building, and probably it was in course of construction for some time prior to the latter year. The gatehouse and other detached buildings were erected shortly after. The house is a highly picturesque half-timbered building on a low stone base, two stories in height, facing the south, and occupies the north side of a small courtyard, to the south of which is a larger courtyard, on to which the stables and outbuildings open. Behind the stables to the south is the stable yard—the whole forming a symmetrical arrangement of three quadrangles which gives to the hall and its outbuildings an appearance of size and importance which with less systematic planning it would not have possessed. Though retaining a great many of the characteristics of the older Lancashire houses, both as regards plan and elevations, Kenyon Peel at the same time exhibits the influence of new ideas, these buildings showing evidences everywhere of a well thought-out plan, and a desire for balance and symmetry. In its general arrangement and appearance the hall is not very much altered from the time it was built, though there was a good deal of work done in the interior in the way of fittings and decorations in the 18th century, and a brick wing was added at the back on the west side of the house at the same period. A later extension at the north-east was made as late as 1870.

Owing to mining operations many settlements have occurred and at one time the house was allowed to fall into disrepair and had to be shored up. It was restored, however, in the early eighties, but the work then done has destroyed a good deal of the original detail and has substituted a rather hard freshness in place of picturesque decay. The half-timber front has been renewed in a manner which does not strictly carry out the design of the old work. All the barge-boards and hip-knobs are new, and the old grey-stone roof coverings have been replaced by blue slates. The building nevertheless retains a picturesqueness which it owes to its arrangement and plan as well as to its more strictly architectural features.

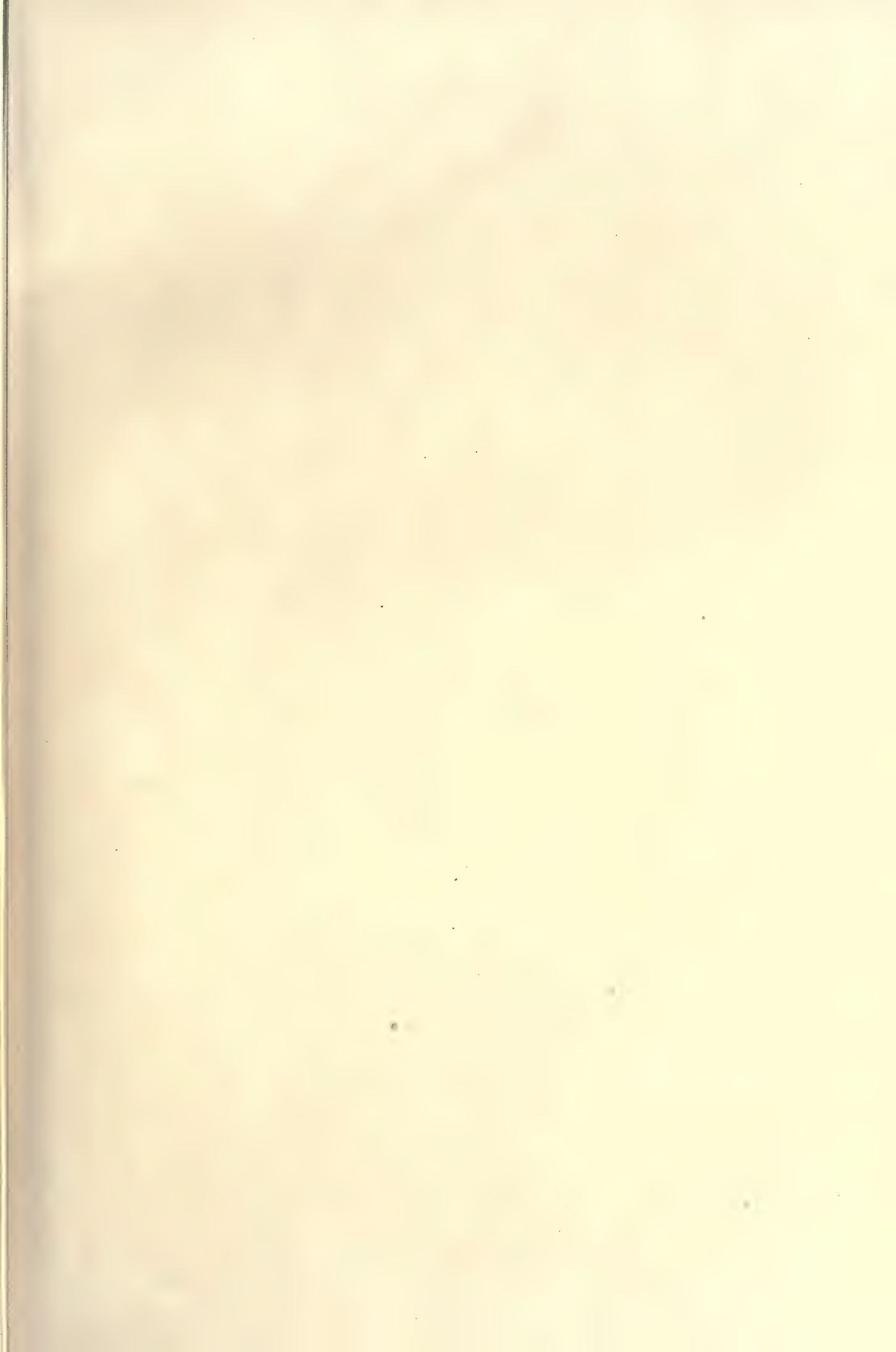
The house itself consists of a main block standing east and west, with three projecting gabled bays, the middle one of which contains the porch. At either end of the main front is another projecting bay, the whole forming a kind of irregular  shape. The principal front thus has seven gables, five facing south and one at each end facing inward to the courtyard. These many gables, especially when seen at a distance from the south-east in conjunction with the gatehouse, give a broken and irregular skyline which is very pleasing. The return ends of the two outer wings are faced with stone, and the remainder of the sides and the whole of the back elevation is in brick. A portion of the timber framing, however, shows at the back of the hall. A lead spout-head on the west side of the house bears the date 1741 and the initials G K P.

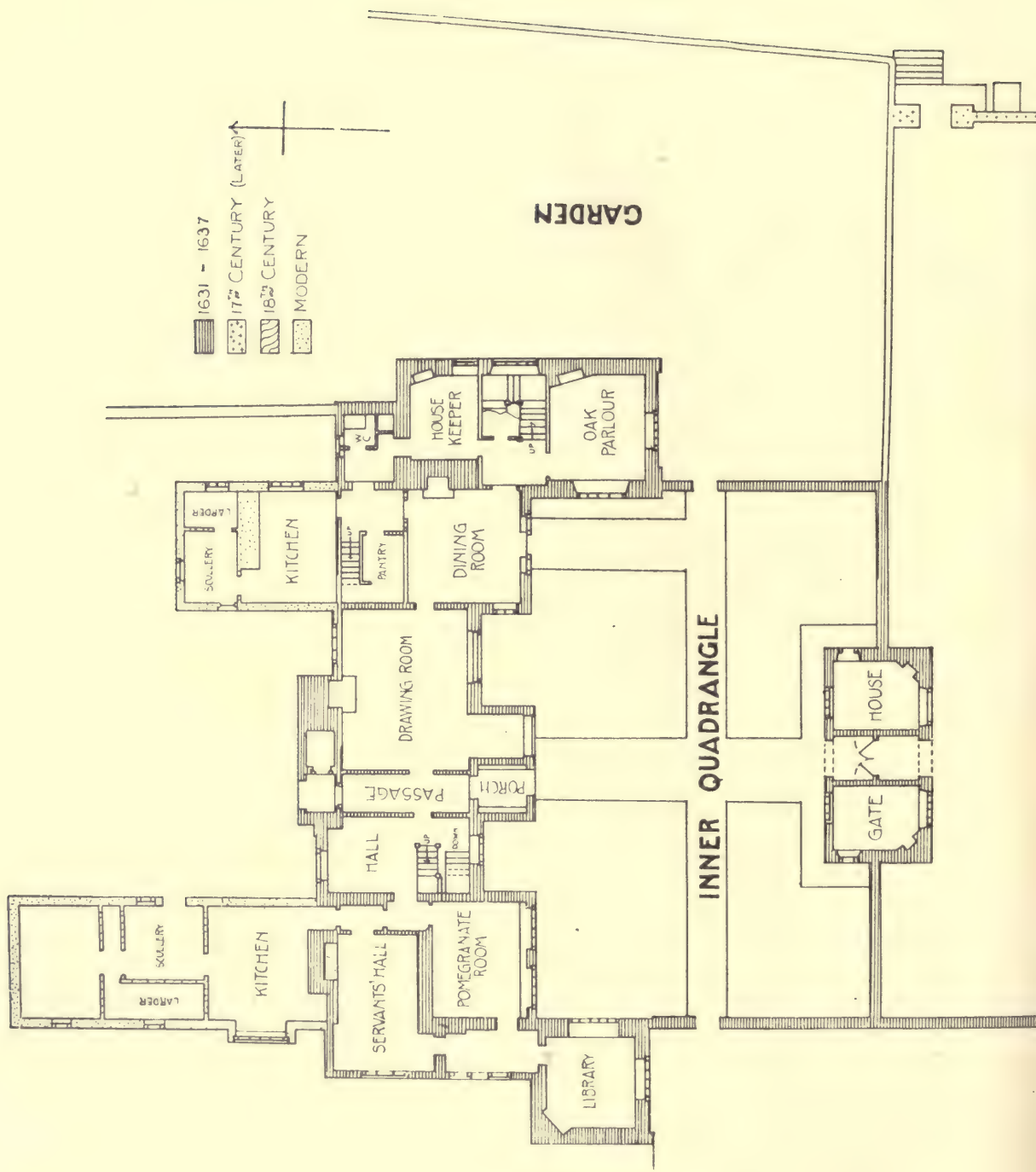
The plan of the house itself shows the influence of the old ideas, the great hall occupying the central position, with a passage answering to the screen at the west end opposite the porch. The porch and bay window of the hall are under the central projecting gable, the unusual position of the bay being due to

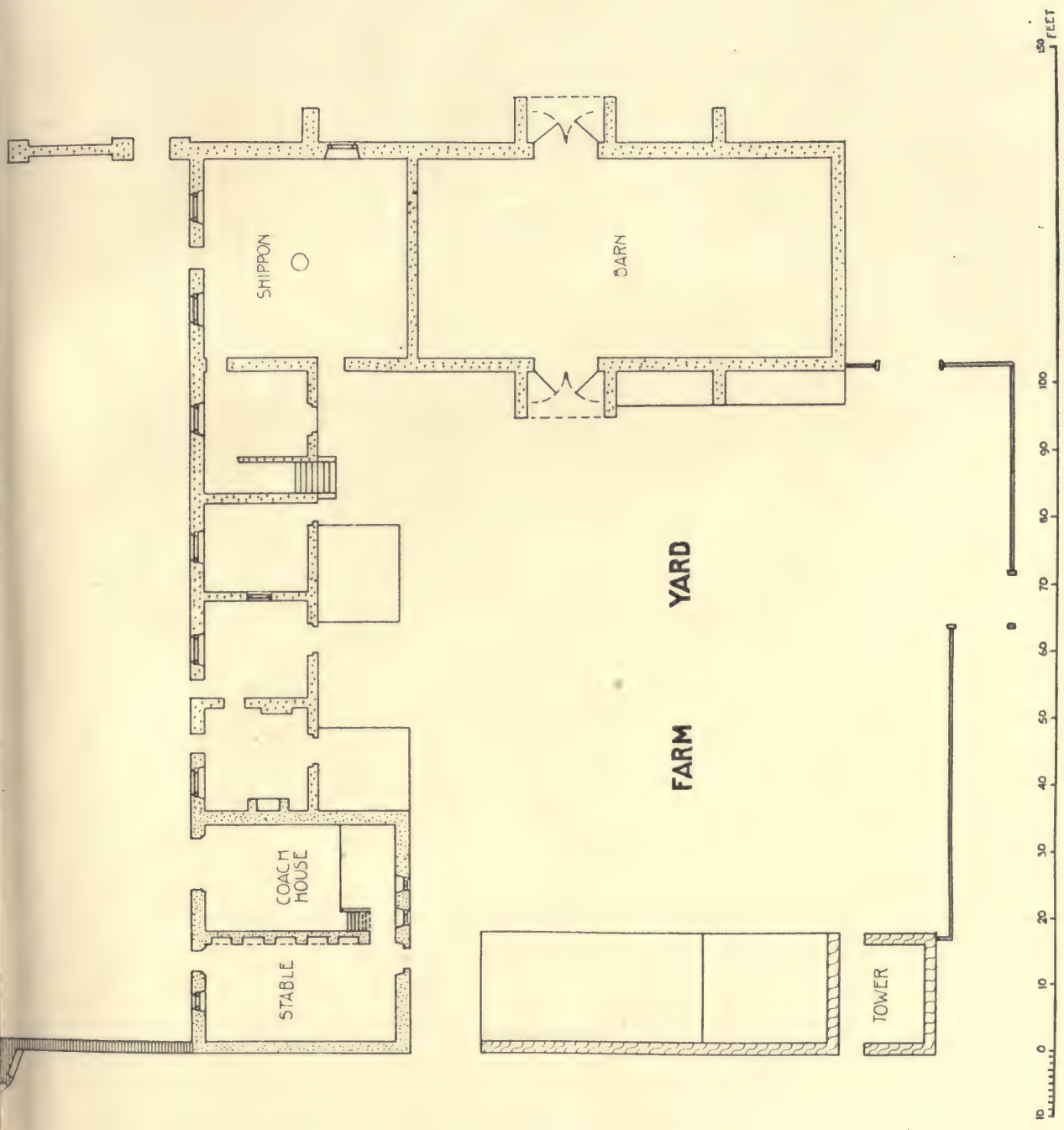
considerations of symmetry in the external arrangement. The great hall, which is in no way emphasized in the exterior elevation, is a low room, 30 ft. in length (including the passage) by about 20 ft. wide, with a bay window 6 ft. wide and 8 ft. deep at the south-west corner, and mullioned windows on the north and south with a fireplace at the north-west. The room was probably used much as a modern dining-room, but is now the drawing-room. The ingle nook in the north-west is now built up and a modern fireplace inserted. There are windows on both sides of the room. The hall is panelled all round, with classic pilasters to the bay window and to the door-cases at the east end. Most of the panelling is the original oak wainscot, but it has been repaired with pitch pine, and the whole is now painted white. The ceiling, which is only 8 ft. 6 in. high, is crossed by four beams and is quite plain. Beyond the hall on the east end of the house is the present dining-room, a small room 17 ft. square, looking on to the inner courtyard. It is lined with 18th-century panelling and has a semicircular recess on each side of the fireplace. Beyond is the main staircase, with twisted balusters and square newels, and half balusters against the walls. Behind the dining-room is another smaller room looking east, also lined with 18th-century panelling and now called the housekeeper's room. At the other side of the staircase, at the end of the east wing, is the oak parlour, or smoke room, which, as its name implies, is also panelled, and has a fine Jacobean chimney-piece, the upper part being divided into three panels by four allegorical female figures. The centre panel has the arms of Kenyon quartering Rigby.

To the west of the great hall are rooms corresponding to the dining-room and oak parlour, called respectively the pomegranate room and the library. The pomegranate room takes its name from the plaster ornamentation of the ceiling, but is otherwise plain. The library is lined all round with deep bookshelves with wooden fronts of 18th-century date, and there are cellars under these two rooms. Upstairs there are portions of oak panelling in some of the bedrooms, but nothing of special note except in Lord Kenyon's bedroom, over the oak parlour. This room contains some very good 17th-century oak panelling, with richly carved upper panels and cornice. Over the fireplace, forming part of an elaborately carved mantelpiece, are two painted armorial panels with the date 1637. The ceiling, which is plain, is arched in section, and the door is 18th-century work. The bedroom over the drawing-room has also an arched ceiling with plaster ornamentation near the springing. The floors all over the house are very uneven owing to the settlements. There is a second staircase on the west side of the house with old oak treads but modern varnished balusters. The whole plan indicates the period of transition in manners which in other parts was much earlier than 1630, but which was necessarily delayed in the country districts. There are no corridors in the house, most of the rooms being more or less passage rooms.

In a document dated 1783, now at the house, the courtyards are called the 'green court' and the 'flag court,' the former being apparently the outer. The portion of the grounds between the house and the road on the east side is called the 'wilderness,' and mention is made of 'barns, stables, shippens, fold, &c.,' on the south side. The wilderness was an irregularly-







LITTLE HULTON : PLAN OF KENYON PEEL HALL

shaped triangular piece of ground bounded on two sides by the road, and on the west by a fence wall, with gateways leading to the entrance-way from a lane at the back of the house. In the outer angle of the wilderness was a brick 'arbour,' built presumably in the 18th century, and a small pond. The gardens proper lay along the full length of the west side of the house and outbuildings, with a private walled-in garden directly to the west of the hall.

The courtyard in front of the house is about 80 ft. by 50 ft. It is partly inclosed on the east and west by the projecting wings of the house, and beyond, by a high stone wall. In the middle of the south side is the gatehouse, a two-story building with a central gateway, and one room on each side. The upper floor consists of one apartment, said to have been a court-house, but now used as a servants' dormitory. The gatehouse is a solidly built structure of stone with mullioned windows, a grey stone-slatted roof finishing with a stone gable at each end, and at each corner of the building is a tall brick chimney, square at the bottom and set diagonally above. On the ridge of the roof is a bell-cote, now boarded up, and till lately containing a bell reputed to be of silver. It was made by Abraham Rudhall of Gloucester in 1731, and was inscribed, 'Come away make no delay,' but was stolen some years ago at the time when repairs to the house were being made. The two bottom rooms of the gatehouse are entered from the inner court only, and not from the gateway passage. The oak doors hung midway in the gateway passage are double hung, and have a wicket. On their top rail is carved 'G R B Peace be within these walles 1637.' The initials are those of George Rigby and Beatrix (Hulton) his wife. On each side of the inner quadrangle leading to the gardens beyond are stone doorways with picturesquely stepped gables of good early Renaissance type, with spiked finials. The gateway on the east side of the court has the date 1631 with the arms of Rigby on the lintel, and the initials G R on a panel in the gable above. The doorway of the opposite side has the initials G R B on both sides, and facing the courtyard the date 1634. These little stone gateways flanking the inner courtyard, taken in conjunction with the rather severe mass of the gatehouse and the black-and-white work of the house, are very effective, and seem to put a touch of refinement into the building which it otherwise would lack. The courtyard itself, crossed in each direction by flagged paths between squares of grass, has a formality quite in keeping with the Renaissance spirit of the gateways.

The outer courtyard is 130 ft. long from west to

east and about 70 ft. wide, its area being thus more than double that of the inner courtyard. It extends up to the road on the east side, having a wide entrance gateway with massive stone piers surmounted with balls, and narrow side gates, facing to the road. There is a mounting-block outside the side gate nearest the house. On the west side is a wall with a central stone alcove, surmounted by a figure of a boy, and in front of this a sundial on a pedestal. The court is partly turfed, and has a curved carriage drive, which takes away somewhat from the formality which the classic style of the alcove would suggest as necessary. The range of stable buildings which bounds the quadrangle on the south side is a massive stone structure with a gable at each end facing north, and good mullioned windows with hood-moulds. There has been a good deal of alteration, and the old flat-arched doorways are built up. But generally the building retains its original appearance, and in the part now called the Shippon is a central stone pillar. On its eastern gable is the date 1668 with the arms of Kenyon impaling Rigby. The roofs at this end of the building, together with the great barn, are of grey stone slates, while the rest of the buildings are covered with blue slates. The south front of the stables faces the lower or stable-yard, which has a fine stone-built barn with massive buttresses on its east side. The west side of the yard is bounded by a high brick boundary wall separating it from the house gardens, and the south-west corner is occupied by a picturesque brick dove-house presumably of 18th-century date, with stone dressings and grey stone-slatted pyramidal roof. The west end of the stable range facing the garden was erected in 1722 by Lloyd Kenyon, and rebuilt again in 1864, as an inscription sets forth. On this side of the building also is an elaborate shield of arms with helm, crest, and mantling, carved in stone. The Rigby arms occur again on the head of a gate in the fence wall to the north-east of the house.

Among the former proprietors in the townships were the Farnworth⁷³ and Valentine families.⁷⁴

The land tax returns of 1789 show that in Middle Hulton the chief contributors were the Rev. Mr. Bagot and his tenants, who paid over one-fifth; the Duke of Bridgewater, Miss Killer, and others paid smaller sums. In Little Hulton in 1788 Joseph Yates and his tenants paid more than half, the remainder being contributed by Mrs. Ann Kenyon, the Duke of Bridgewater, the Rev. Walter Bagot, Peter Shakerley, and others. In Over Hulton in 1802 the trustees of William Hulton seem to have been the sole proprietors.⁷⁵

⁷³ Geoffrey de Worsley granted to Hugh rector of Standish land called the Edge and Hope Croft, at a rent of 12d.; Ellesmere D. no. 45. Rector Hugh afterwards gave all his land—that which Richard the clerk of Irlam farmed and Hope Croft—to Adam de Farnworth; a pair of white gloves was to be paid yearly to the grantor and 12d. to the chief lord of the fee; *ibid.* no. 43. William son of Hugh de Standish claimed a messuage and lands in Hulton from Roger son of Adam de Farnworth in 1292, alleging that Hugh had demised them to Adam. The claim failed; Assize R. 408, m. 48 d. Adam son of Roger de Farnworth in 1301 sought estovers in 60 acres in Hulton against Richard son of

Henry de Worsley and others; Assize R. 321, m. 8 d.

In 1370 Henry de Farnworth leased lands in Hulton Edge (except Hopecroft), which were part of his mother Maud's dower; Ellesmere D. no. 63. Another lease was made by Richard son of Henry de Farnworth in 1397; no. 65. Eight years later the Hulton lands were granted to Richard son of Richard de Farnworth and Alice his wife, daughter of Thomas the Roper; no. 69. Nicholas Farnworth and Margery his wife in 1494 assigned to trustees an annual rent of 7s. 3d. from the Edge in Hulton; no. 74. A few years later this and other Farnworth lands were sold to Joan Dame

Stanley, the heiress of Worsley; no. 110-14.

A family named Edge resided on this estate. In 1551 there was a suit between George Grundy and Ellen widow of John Edge respecting Hobb Croft in Hulton, held under the manor of Worsley; *Duchy Plead.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), iii, 119. In 1564 John Edge sought lands in Middle Hulton from Dame Jane Brereton and others; *Ducatus Lanc.* (Rec. Com.), ii, 281; iii, 458.

⁷⁴ In 1487 Thomas Valentine and John his son and heir apparent granted to George Valentine son of Thomas for life lands in Hulton called Woodcroft, Herbercroft, Dowers, and Wood Hey; Vaudrey D.

⁷⁵ Land Tax Ret. at Preston.

A HISTORY OF LANCASHIRE

In connexion with the Established Church Peel Chapel, St. Paul's, was built in 1760 by Joseph Yates; several of the Yates family are buried there.⁷⁶ It was rebuilt in 1828 and in 1876, a district chapelry having been formed in 1874.⁷⁷ The patronage is vested in Lord Kenyon. Services are held in St. Andrew's School, Over Hulton.

The Presbyterian Church of England has the old Wharton Chapel, the congregation originating with the Nonconformists of 1662, under the protection of the Mort family; the chapel was rebuilt in 1723. The Moravians held services in it from 1755 till about 1800; afterwards the Congregationalists used it till in 1860 it was given to the Presbyterians. It had been very poorly attended.⁷⁸ A new church was built in 1901.

The Wesleyan Methodists' Chapel dates from 1817, and that of the Primitive Methodists from 1823. Each denomination has since added another.

The Roman Catholic Church of St. Edmund, King and Martyr, was opened in Little Hulton in 1876,⁷⁹ and rebuilt in 1899.

FARNWORTH

Farnworth, Farneworth, Farnewrth, 1278-9.

Farnworth, anciently a hamlet in Barton, afterwards became a separate township, and in modern times has grown into a small town, with numerous industries.

It measures about 2 miles from east to west, with a breadth of a little over a mile. The area is 1,502 acres.¹ The surface slopes generally from west to east, the lowest ground being in the north-east corner, where the River Croal forms the boundary; this part is called Darley. Will Hill Brook, part of which has been utilized to form reservoirs, forms the northern boundary. The town has grown chiefly in the eastern half of the area, on both sides of the great road from Manchester to Bolton, and the main road, which here joins the former, leading north from Eccles. A third important road, known as Plodder Lane, goes westward through the centre of the township, the hamlet called Dixon Green lying upon it. Highfield lies in the south-west corner; to the east of it is Blindsill, and the hamlet of New Bury is near the middle of the southern boundary. Presto Street, near the eastern boundary, indicates the position of Prestall, which stood on the boundary of Kearsley, perhaps partly within it. Halshaw Moor is in the same quarter. Birch House is situated on the north-east side of the Manchester and Bolton road, there

called Market Street. Moses Gate is the district on the northern boundary, through which the same road passes, and Harper's Green lies to the south-west. The population in 1901 numbered 25,925.²

The Lancashire and Yorkshire Company's line from Manchester to Bolton³ goes through the north-eastern corner of the township, and has a station called Farnworth and Halshaw Moor and another called Moses Gate on the southern and northern limits respectively. The London and North Western Company's line from Bolton through Eccles to Manchester crosses the centre of the township from north to south, and has a station called Plodder Lane, close to Dixon Green.

In 1666 there were ninety-one hearths liable to the tax; the largest houses were those of Urian Leigh and Jonathan Dorning, with six hearths each.⁴

There were large paper mills,⁵ iron foundries,⁶ and cotton mills;⁷ brick and tile works, and extensive collieries. A newspaper is published on Fridays.

A local board was formed in 1863.⁸ The township is now divided into six wards, denoted by points of the compass, each returning three members to the urban district council, which replaced the local board in 1894.

Gas is now supplied by a company formed in 1854.⁹ There are market, park, baths, and cemetery under public control. Monday and Saturday are the market days. There is a fair held on the third Monday in September.¹⁰ The Bolton Workhouse is built in the north-west corner of the township.

For a few years there were races on the moor.¹¹

Dorning Rasbotham, writing in 1787, recorded that the Croal was 'extremely subject to floods,' by which 'great quantities of paving stones and gravel' were carried down. It then produced 'trout, shoulers, dace, gudgeons, and eels.' Farnworth Hall, the property of the Duke of Bridgewater, was then standing; butter had been churned by a late tenant by means of a water-mill. The farms were small, and occupied by manufacturers, willing to pay something from the labour of their looms for the convenience of a few acres to support two or three cows. Oats and potatoes were grown. Coal was worked and conveyed to Worsley by subterranean canals. In all the cloughs or dingles the alder grew spontaneously; charcoal was made of it; oak and ash also grew.¹²

Coins have been found.¹³

Originally merely a hamlet in Barton, **MANOR FARNWORTH** does not seem to have been recognized as a manor or lordship till late in the 13th century. At that time, it was divided, being held partly of the lords of Manchester

⁷⁶ Baines, *Lancs.* (ed. 1836), iii, 42.

⁷⁷ *Lond. Gaz.* 20 Mar. 1874.

⁷⁸ Nightingale, *Lancs. Nonconformity*, iv, 108. An account of its endowments may be seen in the *Endowed Charities Rep.* (Deane) of 1903, p. 32.

⁷⁹ Kelly, *Engl. Cath. Missions*, 252.

¹ 1,504, including 42 of inland water, according to the census of 1901.

² *Pop. Returns*, 1901.

³ Opened 29 May 1838; Dixon Fold Bridge, Stoneclough Bridge, Tunnel (now Farnworth), and Moses Gate were the stations in Kearsley and Farnworth.

⁴ *Subs. R. bdle.* 250, no. 9.

⁵ At Darley Mill in 1783 two vats were employed making six packs of coarse

paper weekly; Dorning Rasbotham in B. T. Barton's *Farnworth and Kearsley* (Bolton, 1887), 9. This work gives a good account of the history of the townships during the 19th century. The story of the Crompton family and their paper and cotton factories is related; p. 266, &c. The old Pack Horse Road is described on p. 30.

⁶ *Ibid.* 263; the first foundry started in 1838.

⁷ For an account of James Rothwell Barnes (who died 23 Mar. 1849), and the foundation of the Farnworth cotton mills see the above-quoted work, pp. 83-6, 272-87.

⁸ *Lond. Gaz.* 11 Sept. 1863.

⁹ Barton, *op. cit.* 60-6. From 1835 it had been supplied by James Berry, a brazier, who, without authority, ran pipes from his own apparatus.

¹⁰ It is said that the 'wakes' owe their date to the opening of St. John's Church in Sept. 1826; *ibid.* 74. A fair, however, had been held in July for some time before 1783; *ibid.* 14.

¹¹ *Ibid.* 79.

¹² *Ibid.* 9-15.

Farnworth Hall had been purchased from Lord Semple, who had it with his wife, Miss Gaskell, of Manchester. Raines says that in 1849 it was occupied as cottages.

¹³ *Ibid.* 7, 15; mediaeval and later.



LITTLE HULTON : KENYON PEEL HALL, c. 1881 (BEFORE RESTORATION)

directly and partly of those of Barton.¹⁴ Thus in 1282 'a certain plat' rendered 5s. a year to Robert Grelley.¹⁵ In 1278 Richard de Redford and Richard the Chief of Farnworth were described as lords of the place.¹⁶ Soon afterwards the heir of Richard the Chief seems to have disposed of his share to the Hulton and Lever families.¹⁷

At the Manchester Barony Survey of 1320 Adam de Lever of Great Lever, Henry de Hulton, and Richard de Redford held Farnworth by homage and fealty, a rent of 6s., and puture of the serjeants. Henry de Hulton further paid 3s. a year for the Mossyhalgh; and John son of Adam de Farnworth held lands by a rent of 6d. and puture; the total rent was thus 9s. 6d.¹⁸ In 1326 three parts of the manor of Farnworth was settled on the heirs of Adam de Lever.¹⁹ In 1473 it was found that the Lever portion of the manor paid a rent to Manchester of 3s. 6d., the Hulton portion 4s. 6d., and the Redford portion—divided between Adam Prestall and Richard Seddon—1s.; a total of 9s.²⁰ The 6d. from Geoffrey de Farnworth has been omitted.²¹

Of these different shares of the manor the principal was that of the Hultons, and was usually described

absolutely as 'the manor.' The Lever share has descended with Great Lever to the Earl of Bradford; the descent of the Redford part, which seems to have been diminished by many alienations, is given under Kearsley.

The Hultons of Farnworth descended from John, said to have been a younger son of David de Hulton.²² Henry son of John de Hulton is frequently mentioned about the end of the 13th century,²³ and, as stated above, held a share of the manor in 1320. John the son and successor of Henry²⁴ had a grant of Harpurhey in Manchester from John La Warre in 1327,²⁵ and a few years later had Oakenley in Horwich.²⁶ He was followed by William de Hulton, who, apparently as a child, had a lease of Mulwardscroft in Manchester in 1337,²⁷ and made a settlement on his heirs male of the manors of Rumworth and Farnworth, and various messuages and lands in Farnworth, Rumworth, Lostock, Kearsley, Irlam, Barton, Brightmet, Snydale, Westhoughton, Middleton, Great Lever, Bolton, and Lower Hulton; also in Worsley, Manchester, Harpurhey, Denton, Gorton, and Gotherswick.²⁸

William lived on till late in the century,²⁹ and was

¹⁴ *Lancs. Inq. and Extents* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), i, 54. Sir Gilbert de Barton afterwards released his right in the 'vill' of Farnworth to Thomas Grelley; De Trafford D. no. 298.

¹⁵ *Lancs. Inq. and Extents*, i, 245. A Leisig de Farnworth occurs in 1184-5; Farrer, *Lancs. Pipe R.* 55.

¹⁶ *Assize R.* 1238, m. 34. They were defendants in a plea for common of pasture brought by Roger de Farnworth; Adam son of John de Lever, Adam son of Eve de Prestall, Henry de Blindsill (Blyndeshull), and Matthew son of Siward de Farnworth, were the other defendants. They asserted that Roger held of them, but the jury found that he held most of his land of Robert Grelley, only 6 acres being held of John father of Richard (? the Chief), still surviving; thus a verdict was given for the plaintiff.

¹⁷ Adam the Chief of Farnworth was living in 1246; *Assize R.* 404, m. 6. The same Adam granted to Adam son of Robert land in Farnworth beginning at Walkden Brook; Ellesmere D. no. 78. To John son of Emma de Lever he quitclaimed all right in the lands of Leising de Lever except one oxgang in Farnworth; Lever Chartul. (Add. MS. 32103), no. 15.

Richard the Chief, already mentioned, is the next of the family to occur. He seems to have died before 1295, leaving sons Richard and William. Richard son of Richard, 'called the Chief,' made several grants to Adam son of John de Lever at the beginning of 1295; in one of them Farnworth is described as 'a hamlet in the vill of Barton,' the land being held of the chief lord of the honour of Manchester; but in another a share of 'the liberties and easements of the vill of Farnworth' was included; *ibid.* no. 54-6.

William son of Richard the Chief succeeded his brother very quickly. In Sept. 1295 he enfeoffed Richard de Redinall, clerk, of Whitcroft, formerly held by his uncle William, and Hawkey, held by Henry de Hulton, as well as of his lands in Kearsley; they were held of the lord of Manchester by a rent of 3d.; *ibid.* no. 61-3. These were soon afterwards restored to him by the feoffee; no. 65. He sold his lands to Adam de Lever and Avicé his wife in 1277, with all buildings and gardens,

corn and hay, homages, rents, reliefs, &c.; *ibid.* no. 64. Avicé was probably the widow of Richard the brother of William the Chief; she had already granted lands to Adam; no. 66. William sold some of his estate to Henry de Hulton; no. 45. He does not appear again except in releases of actions in 1299 and 1304; in the former case to Adam de Lever and his sons, Henry de Hulton and his son Henry, Adam de Heaton, and others; in the latter case also to the parties named (except the younger Henry de Hulton); no. 70, 74. John the Chief made a similar release of actions in Oct. 1303; no. 73; There does not seem to be any later notice of the family.

It seems very likely that this was the family which held the 'plat' in Farnworth of the lord of Manchester by a rent of 5s.

¹⁸ *Mamecestre* (Chet. Soc.), 289, 290. From the later rental it would seem that Adam de Lever paid 3s. 6d. of this sum, Henry de Hulton 1s. 6d., and Richard de Redford 1s. The two former amount to 5s., the rent from the 'plat' in 1282, of which 3s. 6d. is about three-quarters.

¹⁹ *Final Conc.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), ii, 62. Adam son of John de Lever had married Agnes daughter of Henry de Hulton, and in 1322 had settled upon her son John various lands in the hamlet of Farnworth, the bounds beginning at Lamford Brook; *Hulton Ped.* 36.

²⁰ *Mamecestre*, 478. At this time John Hulton of Farnworth was life tenant of the Lever portion in right of his wife Joan, previously wife of Adam Lever; Henry Grundy and Richard Halliwell were the actual occupiers.

²¹ The list of free foreign tenants made about the same time includes—Ralph Ashton, John Hulton, and Richard Redeworth (? heirs of Richard Redford) for Farnworth; John Hulton for Moss-hulme in Farnworth; and Geoffrey de Farnworth for tenements in Farnworth; *ibid.* 517.

²² *Hulton Ped.* 5. For Richard de Wicheves, younger son of John de Hulton, see the account of Little Hulton.

²³ Henry son of John de Hulton granted to Adam son of John de Lever the Whitcroft with the sparth adjacent, and his part

of the hey between Whitecroft and Walkden; Lever Chartul. (Add. MS. 32103), no. 25. This had been purchased by Henry de Hulton from William son of Richard the Chief; no. 45. Henry de Hulton was a witness in 1297 and 1302 (no. 64, 75), and made a grant in 1299 (no. 72).

²⁴ In 1316 John son of Henry de Hulton granted to his father all his lands in Farnworth, Great Lever, and the Wicheves; *ibid.* no. 80. John de Hulton made a grant in 1341; no. 93.

²⁵ *Hulton Ped.* 36. The grant was made to Adam son of Robert de Radcliff and Alice his daughter, wife of John son of Henry de Hulton, and to the heirs of Alice.

²⁶ *Ibid.* 20 Jan. 1333-4. In 1341 John de Hulton gave his son Adam and his issue certain land in Manchester, lying on Thourishul; *ibid.* 37.

Margaret daughter of John de Hulton in 1332 released to her brother William all her claim to a burgage in Manchester lying between burgages of Adam de Chorlton and Roger de Radcliffe; *ibid.*

²⁷ *Ibid.* The lease was for nine years. It is possible there is some error as to the William de Hulton to whom this lease was granted. William son of John de Hulton in 1353 had a dispute with William son of Robert de Worsley, who had married Ellen, next of kin to the plaintiff, concerning Harpurhey and lands in Hulton and elsewhere; it appeared that Alice, William de Hulton's mother, was a bastard, and that William had been left a minor; *Assize R.* 435, m. 9 d.

²⁸ This was quoted in the 16th-century suits narrated below. In 1369 William de Hulton and John de Lever made an agreement by which the former granted to the latter the homage, relief, and rent of 2s. due from John son of Adam Quinneson; and John de Lever in exchange released all claim for the spoiling and cutting down of woods and timber in William's several tenements in Farnworth and Great Lever; Lever Chartul. no. 99.

²⁹ William de Hulton died in Oct. 1392; his son John was of full age and married to Elizabeth daughter of Sir William de Atherton; *Lancs. Inq. p.m.* (Chet. Soc.), i, 48 (the editor points out that there is some error in the dates).

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followed by his son John⁸⁰ and his grandson James, who came into possession at the beginning of the reign of Henry VI.⁸¹ He had two sons, William and John, whose descendants enjoyed the manor. William Hulton⁸² had a son John, whose only child Alice married Adam Hulton of Over Hulton. The manor and entailed lands on John's death in 1487⁸³ passed to his brothers and their heirs; Richard, the eldest, was an idiot;⁸⁴ Christopher, who married Margaret one of the daughters and co-heirs of Sir James Harrington of Wolfage, was one of the feoffees of his brother John;⁸⁵ and James left a son William, who succeeded to Farnworth.⁸⁶ His son John died

before him, leaving an infant son William as heir to his grandfather, who died in 1556,⁸⁷ and two daughters, Christian and Katherine.⁸⁸

The estates went to the descendants of John the younger son of James Hulton, named above. John, it is stated, had a son Alan, whose eldest son John Hulton⁸⁹ was a clerk, and the right descended to a grandson Alan son of John's brother Alexander.⁴⁰ The younger Alan had several sons—Thomas, John, George, and William; George is stated to have received the larger share of the inheritance.⁴¹ George Hulton, who was the issue of a second marriage, left sons and daughters;⁴² they sold the manors of Farn-

⁸⁰ The writ of *Diem clausit extr.* after the death of John de Hulton of Farnworth was issued on 12 Mar. 1422-3; *Dep. Keeper's Rep.* xxxiii, App. 24. The *Inquisition*, as printed by the Chetham Society (ii, 5), states that he died 28 Dec. 1422, leaving a son and heir James, twenty-six years of age. He had held 'certain lands in Barton called Farnworth' of the lord of Manchester; also in Rumworth and elsewhere.

An arbitration in 1417 between John de Hulton, John Valentine, and Richard Valentine on the one part, and Adam de Hulton and Richard his son on the other, respecting lands in Tyldesley, resulted in favour of the former; Adam de Hulton was to pay 10 marks to John and restore to Richard Valentine a horse and three cows which he had wrongfully seized; *Hulton Ped.* 38.

Ellen daughter of John de Hulton married Roger de Hulton of the Park; *ibid.* 12.

⁸¹ A bond by James de Hulton of Farnworth, dated 1427, is printed in *Hulton Ped.* 39.

⁸² In 1445 Randle Hulton of Manchester and another were acquitted of the charge of shooting Richard Whitehead and giving him a mortal wound; among the accessories were John Hulton, William son of James Hulton, and Edward, William's brother, all of Farnworth; *Pal. of Lanc. Plea R.* 8, m. 23b; 9, m. 29.

⁸³ *Hulton Ped.* 41, where is printed the inquisition, not taken till 1496. This states that he held the manor of Farnworth, and lands there and in Kearsley, Westhoughton, Manchester, Harpurhey, and Lostock of Thomas West, Lord La Warre, and other lands in Broughton and Bolton. Alice, his daughter and heir, in 1489 married Adam de Hulton, she being then fifteen years of age, and he fourteen. Christopher Hulton, brother of John, had taken the profits since his brother's death.

In 1500 Christopher Hulton made a settlement of Farnworth Hall, &c., in favour of Margaret his wife, with remainders to the heirs male, &c.; *Pal. of Lanc. Plea R.* 89, m. 3; see also *R.* 95, m. 6d. A feoffment by him in 1503 concerning the dower lands of Joan, the widow of John Hulton, is printed in the *Dep. Keeper's Rep.* xl, App. 543; she was the widow of Adam Lever; see Lever Chartul. no. 194, 195.

Christopher Hulton seems to have died in 1509, when Richard Radcliffe, as trustee, claimed lands in Rumworth and Westhoughton for the benefit of Margaret his wife; other trustees had taken possession of Farnworth Hall; *Pal. of Lanc. Plea R.* 108, m. 18.

In depositions taken in 1559 (Anderson D. no. 11) it was stated that Christo-

pher Anderton had confessed to making untrue depositions in a Chancery suit brought by Adam Hulton of the Park, and so had retained possession of lands in Snyderdale in Westhoughton, &c.; repenting on his death-bed, he desired his wife to restore the deeds and the lands to the true owner, but she also retained them till her death, in spite of the counsel of 'divers of her ghostly fathers.' She died at Moberley in 1516, and then desired her sister, Eleanor Leycester, and others to see that restitution was made.

⁸⁴ *Hulton Ped.* 39; his wardship was granted to his wife Elizabeth and to Thomas Hulton his cousin, £40 a year being payable to the Crown during his life. See *Duchy of Lanc. Inq. p.m.* iii, 26.

⁸⁵ *Hulton Ped.* 40.

⁸⁶ In 1521 William Hulton, in order to end the disputes with Adam Hulton of the Park respecting the inheritance of Alice daughter and heir of John Hulton, released his lands in Snyderdale (Snyderdale) in Westhoughton, Harpurhey, Denton, Openshaw, and Gorton, with reversion to William in the event of the failure of male heirs of Alice. Adam Hulton, on the other hand, allowed that the lands in Barton, Lever, and Bolton should remain to William and to the heirs male of James Hulton his father, according to the will of John Hulton, elder brother of James and father of Alice; *Hulton Ped.* 41-3.

After William Hulton's death Adam Hulton claimed the fulfilment of the agreement—Christian, the widow, and Alan, the heir, being defendants; *Duchy of Lanc. Plea.* xxxviii, H. 21.

⁸⁷ *Duchy of Lanc. Inq. p.m.* x, 32; he held the manor of Farnworth and lands there and elsewhere in the neighbourhood, of the lord of Manchester, by a rent of 56s. He also held the manor of Rumworth and other lands. His grandson and heir was four years of age.

The agreement for the marriage of John, son and heir of William Hulton of Farnworth, and Alice, daughter of Sir William Radcliffe of Ordsall, was made in December 1548; there was some disputing concerning it; *Duchy of Lanc. Plea.* xxxiii, H. 11.

⁸⁸ Numerous references to the litigation which ensued will be found in the *Ducatus Lanc.*

Christian Hulton, widow of William, aged seventy, stated that he had entrusted to her certain lands in Farnworth, &c., which he had received under the will of John Hulton his uncle fifty years before, to enable her to keep and educate William Hulton the grandson, also Christian and Katherine; and to find two priests to say mass daily for the souls of William her husband and John his uncle; *Duchy of Lanc. Plea.* xxxviii, H. 6. Francis

Tunstall and Alice his wife, the widow of John Hulton the younger, also claimed the custody of her three children against the grandmother, as well as Farnworth Hall and certain parts of the estate from which they had been ejected; *ibid.* xl, T. 16, 21, 21a.

⁸⁹ Vicar of Blackburn 1561 to 1580; died 1582; *Abram, Blackburn*, 287.

⁴⁰ These details are from the pedigree recorded in 1567; *Visit.* (Chet. Soc.), 11. Alan is called 'son and heir' of Alexander, and also 'base son'; probably he had been born before marriage, the second son, George, being legitimate.

A claim was put forward by James Hulton of Chorley, as son of Edward, son of John Hulton, the great-grandfather of Alan, citing the feoffment by William de Hulton in the time of Richard II. John Hulton, clerk, and Alan Hulton were the defendants; *Duchy of Lanc. Plea.* xxxviii, H. 19; xlii, H. 10. John Hulton gave his pedigree as son of Alan Hulton, son of John Hulton, son of James Hulton, in reply to James Hulton; *ibid.* lix, H. 19.

Katherine and Christian Hulton, the daughters, in 1564 laid claim to some or all of the Farnworth manors and lands as co-heirs; but John Hulton, clerk, as heir male, justified his title; *ibid.* lix, H. 19a; lxxxii, H. 2. It was stated that Adam Hulton of the Park had claimed the manors of Farnworth and Rumworth as heir general.

In 1560 there was a recovery of the manors of Farnworth and Rumworth, fifty messuages, a water-mill, &c., John Hulton, clerk, and Alan Hulton being the holders; *Pal. of Lanc. Plea R.* 207, m. 3.

Alan Hulton was living in 1581; *Ducatus Lanc.* iii, 79.

⁴¹ *Hulton Ped.* 43, 44; also contemporary pedigree in Lever Chartul. fol. 51. No reason is given for the preference shown to the younger son.

As early as 1574 Alan Hulton became bound to Christopher Anderton and others not to disinherit his son John, but power was reserved to alter this, provided a majority of those to whom he became bound consented; and this power he exercised in 1587 when he bestowed all his manors and lands (with a small exception) on his second son George Hulton; *Anderton D.* no. 29, 49.

⁴² George Hulton complained in 1598 that certain persons were intruding on his lands in Farnworth and Kearsley, and digging coal pits there; *Ducatus Lanc.* iii, 376. He died 19 March 1609-10, at Farnworth, holding the manor of Farnworth, with the capital messuage and various lands, &c., there, of Sir Nicholas Mosley as of his manor of Manchester in socage, by the rent of 4r. 6d.; the manor



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worth and Rumworth, and the rest of the inheritance.⁴³ The manors were acquired by the Hultons of Over Hulton.⁴⁴

John the elder brother of George Hulton was seated at Darleys in Farnworth. He died at Blackburn 21 July 1606, holding also lands in the Fylde and at Over Darwen. Darleys was held of Nicholas Mosley as of the manor of Manchester, and was entailed on John Hulton's male issue, with remainder to George Hulton of Farnworth; John Hulton the son and heir was thirteen years of age.⁴⁵

The small part of the manor held by a family which adopted the local name, appears as early as

1246, when Emma de Farnworth mother of Adam claimed half an oxgang of land then in possession of Adam the Chief.⁴⁶ Nine years later Adam de Farnworth claimed that Gilbert de Barton, as mesne lord, should acquit him of the service for his oxgang and a half demanded by the superior lord, Thomas Grelley.⁴⁷ It was probably about this time that Gilbert de Barton released his claim to half of the 2s. rent due from Adam's land.⁴⁸ Adam left two sons, Richard⁴⁹ and Roger.⁵⁰ Of these the former left issue,⁵¹ but the inheritance, or the chief part of it, appears to have descended to the heirs of Roger.⁵² By the end of the 15th century the heir was Nicholas Mitchell *alias*

of Rumworth, of the same, by the third part of a knight's fee and the rent of 4s. 6d.; and various lands in Kearsley, Bolton, and Lever. Thomas, his son and heir, was born in 1601. The inquisition recites the agreement made in 1593 on his marriage with Margaret, daughter of Robert Hyde of Norbury; gives the names of the children as Thomas, George, Richard, Elizabeth, Mary, and Katherine; and adds his will; *Lancs. Inq. p.m.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), iii, 468.

The *Hulton Pedigree* gives an elder son William, born in 1594, who left issue, but this seems to be erroneous.

⁴³ In 1649 Judith Hulton, widow (of Thomas, the heir above-named), was plaintiff, and William Hulton (younger brother of George, father of Thomas) and Elizabeth his wife were deforciant of the manors of Farnworth and Rumworth, and houses, mill, lands, and common rights there and in Lever; *Pal. of Lanc. Feet of F. bdle. 146, m. 76*. In 1658 Richard Bradshaw was plaintiff and Judith Hulton and George Hulton (probably the younger brother of Thomas) deforciant of the manors, &c.; *ibid. bdle. 163, m. 67*. A year later the same Richard Bradshaw was plaintiff and William Hulton and Elizabeth his wife deforciant of the manors; *ibid. bdle. 164, m. 52*.

William son of George Hulton of Farnworth became minister of Ringley Chapel; Barton, *Farnworth*, 156.

⁴⁴ Farnworth and Rumworth appear among the manors of William Hulton of Over Hulton in 1738; *Pal. of Lanc. Feet of F. bdle. 321, m. 3*.

In 1787 it was recorded that 'William Hulton, esquire, of Hulton Park, claims the lordship of the waste of this township; hath frequently exercised the right of driving the commoners and hath gotten coal under Halshaw moor; but he holds no court, nor is there any tradition of a court having ever been held; and, except the instances I have given, and a few applications to him for liberty of making brick upon the waste, I can find no traces of any manorial title;' *Dorning Rasbotham in Barton's Farnworth*, 11.

⁴⁵ *Lancs. Inq. p.m.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), i, 68. During last century Darley was a seat of Benjamin Rawson of Nidd Hall, Yorkshire, and his daughter Elizabeth.

⁴⁶ *Assize R. 404, m. 6*; Adam the Chief gave $\frac{1}{2}$ mark for licence to agree.

⁴⁷ *Final Conc.* i, 116; Thomas Grelley had claimed $\frac{1}{2}$ from Adam de Farnworth for Gilbert's default. Gilbert promised to acquit him. The case proves that the Farnworths' land was held under Barton.

⁴⁸ *Lever Chartul. no. 34, 35*; Adam's mother Emma was a daughter of Leising de Lever, and she had had the oxgang and a half from her father on her marriage

with Siward de Middleton. From a charter quoted below (*Ellesmere D. no. 85*) it appears that Adam's father was named Robert de Farnworth. Adam de Farnworth may therefore be identified with the Adam son of Robert son of Wrgem, to whom Adam the Chief and John de Lever granted land in Farnworth at a rent of 1d.; *Ellesmere D. no. 78, 79*, the latter deed being endorsed 'service of Richard de Farnworth.'

⁴⁹ Richard de Farnworth in 1277 brought an action to compel John son of Gilbert de Barton to adhere to the above-cited fine respecting acquittance of the service demanded by Thomas Grelley; *De Banco R. 21, m. 10*; *R. 27, m. 87 d.*; *R. 29, m. 10*. In 1295 Richard son of Adam de Farnworth granted to Adam de Lever land which he had received from Roger son of Meredith de Hulton; *Lever Chartul. no. 57*. This Roger son of Meredith de Hulton was also called Roger son of Meredith or Marmaduke de Hulton, and was engaged in suits with the Levers in 1301 onwards concerning lands in Farnworth; *Assize R. 1321, m. 4, 11, 13*; *418, m. 11 d. 12*.

⁵⁰ In 1283 Adam de Lever granted to Roger son of Adam de Farnworth the moiety of three parts of 12 acres, approved by Henry de Blindsill by the high road through Walkden to Manchester, and released all claim to certain homages and services from lands which Adam de Farnworth had purchased from John de Lever, a rent of 18d. being due; *Lever Chartul. no. 48*. This Roger is no doubt the Roger de Farnworth, clerk, who in 1278 was suing Adam de Lever for common of pasture in Farnworth; *Assize R. 1238, m. 33 d.* Some grants by Roger are preserved:—To Adam de Lever he gave a moiety of the wood inclosed adjoining Kearsley; and to Richard de Redford an approvement of the waste; *Lever Chartul. no. 28, 38*.

⁵¹ In 1298 Roger son of Meredith de Hulton gave to Richard (? Robert) son of Richard de Farnworth land which had been formerly held by Henry son of Robert de Hulton; *ibid. no. 71*.

⁵² In 1292 Adam son of Roger de Farnworth gave a mark for licence to agree with Roger de Farnworth respecting the warranty of a charter; *Assize R. 408, m. 7*. Nine or ten years later Adam son of Roger de Farnworth and John the son of Adam made claims, as by inheritance, for lands held by Robert son of Richard de Farnworth; *Assize R. 1321, m. 4*; *418, m. 6a, 11 d.*

A dispute of some interest occurred in 1313–14, when Robert son of Richard de Farnworth claimed a messuage and lands in Farnworth and Walkden against John son of Adam de Farnworth and Hawise

his wife, who alleged an enfeoffment by Roger de Farnworth. The places named had been called 'towns' in the writ, but the jury decided that Walkden was neither town nor hamlet, but only a place within Farnworth; *Assize R. 424, m. 3*.

The family contentions appear to have been settled in 1328 by Robert son of Richard de Farnworth releasing to John son of Adam the lands in Hulton and Farnworth formerly held by Roger de Farnworth, Robert's uncle; *Ellesmere D. no. 80*.

John de Farnworth, whose wife was named Mabel (no. 62), had a son Henry, living in 1373 when Adam son of John de Lever granted an *inspeximus* of a charter granted by his ancestor John de Lever to Adam son of Robert de Farnworth, the lands having come into Henry's possession; *ibid. no. 85*, and see no. 79. The witnesses' names prove that this Adam de Farnworth must be the Adam son of Emma already named. In 1366 Henry de Farnworth had granted lands to Richard de Farnworth (probably his son, though not so described), with remainders to Richard son of Agnes daughter of Henry Atkinson de Heaton, and to Richard son of Mabel daughter of Ellis de Ridley; to this deed Henry affixed his own seal and that of the said Richard de Farnworth; no. 84. In 1393 Henry de Farnworth of Worthington and Joan his wife were re-enfeoffed of lands in Hulton and Farnworth, with remainders to Henry's children, Richard, Avice, and Joan; no. 87. Henry was dead in 1394; no. 2.

A William Tasker had had a bond from Henry de Farnworth in 1376, and received one from Henry's son Richard in 1394, while in 1397 he and his wife Emma had a grant of Mabotsfield in Farnworth; *ibid. no. 86, 88, 89, 25*. In 1426 Richard son and heir of William Tasker sold to Sir Geoffrey Massey of Tatton all his right in the lands of Richard de Farnworth; no. 92.

Richard de Farnworth in 1405 gave to trustees his lands in Farnworth and Hulton; his father's widow Joan was still living; *ibid. no. 90*. Richard left a son Richard, who married Alice, daughter of Thomas Roper (no. 69), and two daughters Alice and Margery. Geoffrey son of the younger Richard in 1454 granted to feoffees his lands in Farnworth and Hulton, gave to Sir Geoffrey Massey Tasker's Place in Farnworth, formerly the property of his grandfather Richard, and also granted to Sir Geoffrey the marriage of Hugh Farnworth, his son and heir apparent; *ibid. no. 93–5*. In 1459 and 1466 various arrangements respecting Tasker's Place were made among the Masseys; no. 97–100. An arbitration in 1474 between Lawrence Farnworth and

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Farnworth,⁵⁵ who, in conjunction with his mother, sold it to Dame Joan Stanley, the heiress of Worsley,⁵⁴ and it has since remained part of the Worsley estate, now owned by the Earl of Ellesmere.

Some of the Lever estate in Farnworth was granted to the Byroms on the marriage of John Byrom with Margaret daughter of William Lever in 1437.⁵⁶ Part was sold to Adam Crompton in 1584.⁵⁶

The Hospitallers had lands in Farnworth before 1292.⁵⁷ It was held under them by the Worsleys of Booths,⁵⁸ who, however, did not long retain it. After the suppression of the order their Farnworth estate became the property of the Earls of Derby, under whom the Rishton family held it, having, it is said, purchased from the Worsleys in 1573.⁵⁹ The mansion-house, known as Birch House, has passed through many hands. In the latter half of the 18th century it was the property and residence of

Dorning Rasbotham, a man of literary tastes, who made collections for the history of Lancashire; he died in 1791, and there is a mural tablet to commemorate him in Deane Church.⁶⁰

George Hulton and Henry Schoolcroft were freeholders in 1600.⁶¹ Among earlier landowners appear the names of Lynalx⁶² and Dutton.⁶³

The land-tax returns of 1789 show that the township was divided among a great number of proprietors. Of these the Duke of Bridgewater contributed the largest individual share of the tax—about a twelfth.⁶⁴

The commons were inclosed in 1798.⁶⁵

There are four churches in the township in connexion with the Established religion; of these All Saints', Moses Gate, opened in 1881, is a chapel of ease to St. John's, Halshaw Moor.⁶⁶ St. James's, New Bury, was built in 1862–5; the patronage is vested in trustees.⁶⁷ St. Peter's, consecrated in 1886,

Alice daughter of Geoffrey Farnworth and wife of Nicholas Ashton, resulted in the latter's favour; it appeared that Geoffrey's lands had been tailed to the heirs general; Ellesmere D. no. 101. In 1485 Thomas Ashton, son and heir of Sir John Ashton, as his father's executor, granted a discharge of all claims on the Farnworth estate, having received £20 from Alice, widow of Robert Brown, Margery, widow of Robert Mitchell, Peter Bradshaw, and Ralph Brown; no. 103.

Alice Ashton cannot long have survived, for in 1478 another arbitration was arranged in order to determine the heirship of the lands of Richard Farnworth, father of Geoffrey, lying in Deane parish; his issue had all died out, and therefore his heirs were his sisters, then still living—Alice Farnworth and Margery Mitchell, wife of Robert Mitchell, sometime of Nantwich; they were the lawful daughters of Dicon de Farnworth by Janet daughter of Dicon del Ford of Swinley in Wigan; *ibid.* no. 28.

⁵⁸ Nicholas Mitchell was the son of Margery above mentioned; he seems to have adopted his mother's maiden name on succeeding to the Farnworth inheritance.

⁵⁴ There are a large number of deeds among the Ellesmere collection relating to the transfer of the Farnworth lands in Farnworth and Hulton. In 1480 Robert Mitchell and Margery his wife and Robert Browne and Alice his wife released to Nicholas the son and heir of Margery the inheritance of the said Margery and Alice; Nicholas had married Margery daughter of James Hulme of Blackrod; no. 102. In 1498 Margery Mitchell *alias* Farnworth and her son Nicholas granted to feoffees all their lands in Hulton, Kearsley, Farnworth, and Barton, and the feoffees transferred to Richard Baron of Wigan, with remainder to his brother Ralph; *ibid.* no. 105, 106. In the following year Margery, widow of Robert Mitchell, and daughter and heir of Richard Farnworth, released to Joan Stanley, widow, daughter and heir of Sir Geoffrey Massey, the inheritance which had been sold to her by Margery's son Nicholas in 1490; Nicholas Mitchell confirmed the same; no. 111–13. Dame Joan afterwards (1504), as widow of Sir Edward Pickering, granted a lease of land in Over Hulton to Margery and Nicholas; no. 114.

⁵⁵ Lever Chartul. no. 124, 126–8, 132–3. The lands, to which an addition was made in 1561, were in the possession of Henry son and heir apparent of John

Byrom at the beginning of 1582; Pal. of Lanc. Feet of F. bdles. 23, m. 18; 46, m. 160.

⁵⁶ *Ibid.* bdle. 46, m. 46; Henry Byrom was the vendor. There is no mention of lands in Farnworth in his Inq. p.m. of 1614. The Milnehouses or Milneheys was part of the Byrom property; Pal. of Lanc. Plea R. 227, m. 3.

Adam Crompton at his death in 1590 held a message, &c. in Farnworth and Middleton of John Lacy, lord of Manchester, in socage, by a rent of 4d.; James, his son and heir, was twenty years of age in 1594; Duchy of Lanc. Inq. p.m. xvi, 18. James Crompton died 30 Aug. 1631 holding a message and land in Farnworth of the lord of Manchester; John, his son and heir, was thirty years of age; Towneley MS. C. 8, 13 (Chet. Lib.), 244.

⁵⁷ *Plac. de Quo War.* (Rec. Com.), 375.

⁵⁸ Duchy of Lanc. Inq. p.m. vii, 5, of Robert Worsley, 1533; a rent of 12d. was paid. See also Kuerden, v, fol. 84. In 1787 a rent of 1s. a year was still paid to Bamber Gascoyne, lord of the manor of Much Woolton, as successor in title to the Hospitallers; Barton, *Farnworth*, 12.

⁵⁹ John Rishton, who died 22 Dec. 1633, held a message, garden, two orchards, 10 acres of land, &c. in Farnworth, of the Earl of Derby, as of the suppressed Hospital of St. John of Jerusalem in England. William Rishton, his son and heir, was thirty-five years of age; Towneley MS. C. 8, 13 (Chet. Lib.), 997.

⁶⁰ Baines, *Lancs.* (ed. 1836), iii, 44; his collections were used by Baines. A portrait of Dorning Rasbotham is given. His father, Peter, married Hannah, one of the daughters and co-heirs of John Dorning of Birch House, by whom he acquired the estate. Dorning was born in 1730; in 1754 he married Sarah daughter of James Bayley of Manchester, and had five children—Anne, Dorothy, Peter, Dorning, and Frances. He wrote a tragedy called *Codrus* and various essays, and was also an artist. He was high sheriff in 1769. He died 7 Nov. 1791.

After his death Birch House was sold to John Bentley, whose son again sold it; James Carlton and William Barton Whitlam (who died in 1888) were successively owners; *Bolton Journ.* Aug. 1885.

⁶¹ *Misc.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), i, 246, 251.

Henry Schoolcroft of Farnworth died in 1614 holding of the lord of Manches-

ter a message and lands in Farnworth, Kearsley, and Worsley by 6d. rent; these he devised to Anne his wife on condition that she maintained Henry Towneley and Ellen his wife and their issue in food and clothing. Ellen was the daughter and heir, and of full age; *Lancs. Inq. p.m.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), i, 283.

Henry Tong of Farnworth died about the same time seized of messuages and lands held of the lord of Manchester; John, his brother and heir, was twenty-six years of age; *ibid.*

Evan Grundy died 15 Mar. 1630–1, holding a message and lands in Farnworth of the lord of Manchester; Robert, his son and heir, was fifteen years of age; Towneley MS. C. 8, 13 (Chet. Lib.), 463. Robert Grundy died two years later, leaving a brother John, aged thirteen, as heir; *ibid.* 461.

⁶² In 1342 William de Lynalx received lands in Farnworth and Barton from Robert, son and heir of Robert de Walkden; Ellesmere D. no. 81. These he released to John Maunton, chaplain (probably as trustee), in 1380; Manch. Corp. D.

⁶³ Richard Dutton in 1569 sold lands in Farnworth and Worsley to Christopher Anderton; five years later he sold others to Alan Hulton; the former parcel appears to have been sold in 1592 to George Hulton, who thus acquired the Dutton lands; Pal. of Lanc. Feet of F. bdles. 31, m. 136; 36, m. 197; 54, m. 3; see also *Ducatus Lanc.* iii, 449, 490.

⁶⁴ Land tax returns at Preston. Among the other contributors were:—Edward Whitehead, — Leighs, Richard Entwisle, John Green, Dorning Rasbotham, Richard Entwisle, jun., Abraham Lowton, and John Barnes.

⁶⁵ Barton, *Farnworth*, 383. In the Act William Hulton of the Park was described as lord of the manor, and the principal landowners were the Duke of Bridgewater, the Earl of Derby, Lord Bradford, Sir John Parker Mosley, Le Gendre Pierce Starkie, Rev. Walter Bagot, Peter Rasbotham, &c.

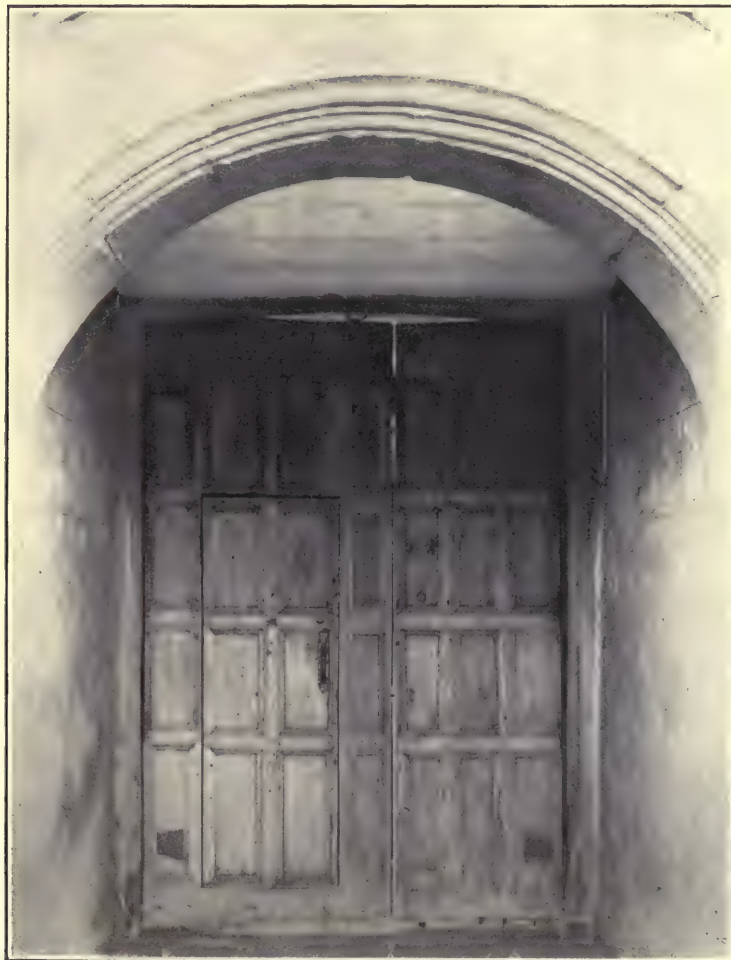
There is a copy of the award, with a plan, at the County Council offices, Preston.

⁶⁶ Barton, *Farnworth*, 244.

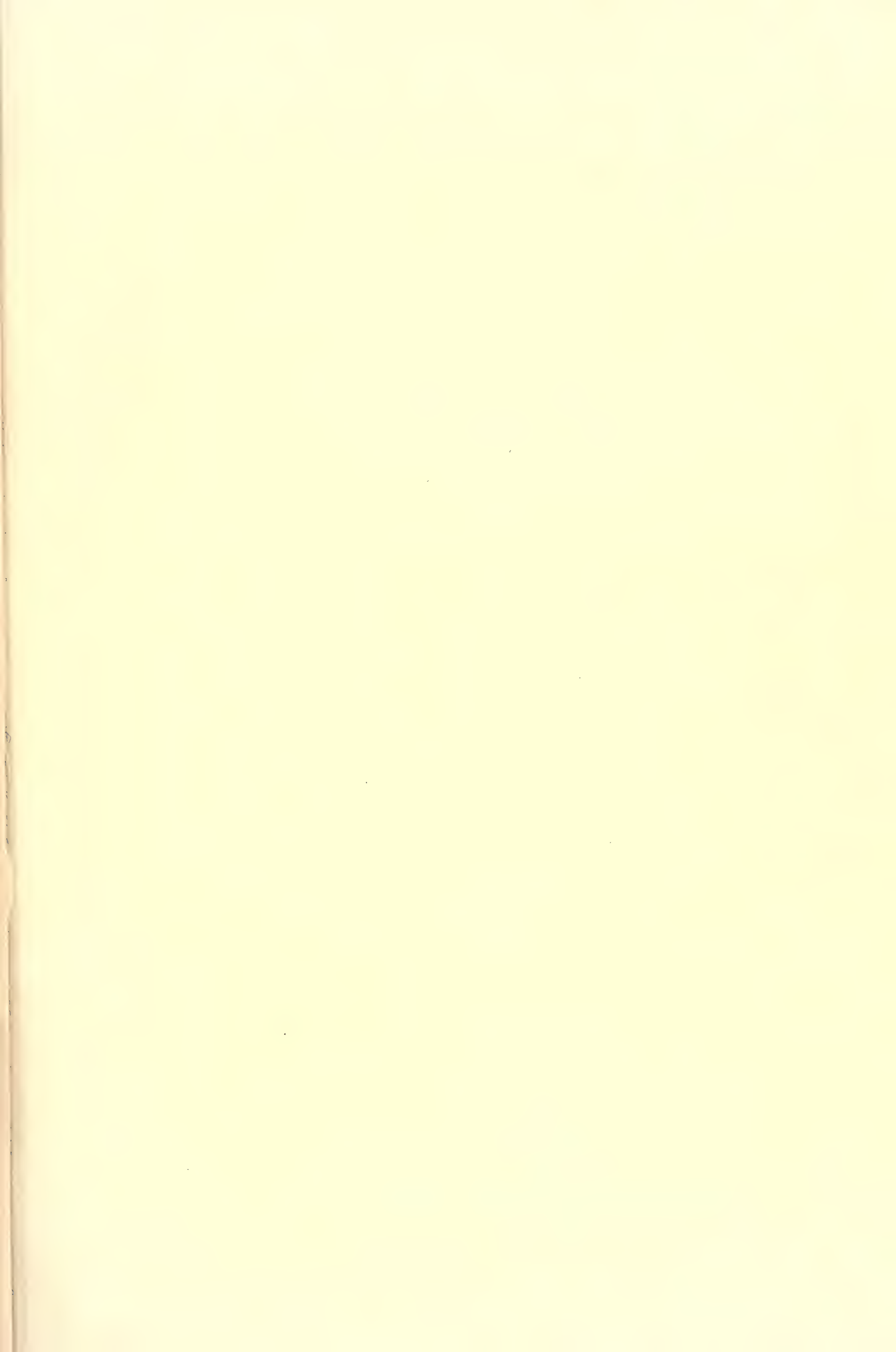
⁶⁷ For the repair fund see *End. Cbar. Rep.* (Deane), 1903, p. 25; for district assigned, *Lond. Gaz.* 11 May 1866. The schools were built in 1839, the colliers of the neighbourhood making the start, and services were held there until the church was built; Barton, *op. cit.* 221–7.



LITTLE HULTON : KENYON PEEL HALL : GATEHOUSE



LITTLE HULTON : KENYON PEEL HALL : OAK DOORS OF GATEHOUSE



is in the gift of the vicar of Farnworth.⁶⁸ Of St. Thomas's, Dixon Green, built in 1879, the Bishop of Manchester is patron.⁶⁹ The Church Army has a mission hall.

The Wesleyan Methodists have five churches—Wesley, in Church Street, Moses Gate, Long Causeway, Plodder Lane, and New Bury.⁷⁰ The Primitive Methodists and Independent Methodists also each have one.⁷¹ The New Connexion formerly had a preaching room at New Bury, but gave it up in 1846.⁷²

The Baptists opened a chapel in 1879;⁷³ this was succeeded by the present church in 1907.

The Congregationalists were the first to establish a place of worship in Farnworth, the old chapel being built in 1808. Now they have three churches.⁷⁴

There is a Welsh Calvinistic Methodist Chapel.

The Catholic Apostolic church has an iron building.

There is also a barracks of the Salvation Army.

The Roman Catholic church of St. Gregory the Great originated in 1852. After using an old warehouse and other buildings a small chapel was built, which in twenty years' time proving too small, the present church in Presto Street was erected, and opened in 1876.

Dixon Green School was founded in 1715.

KEARSLEY

Kersleie, 1268; Keyresley, 1443; Kysley, Kerseley, xvi cent. Kersley continues in use as an alternative spelling.

Kearsley, formerly a part of Farnworth, has become a separate township. Its north-eastern boundary is formed by the Irwell, and the road from Manchester to Bolton passes north-west through the centre, having a length of a mile and a half within the boundaries. The total area of the township is 997 acres.¹ The surface in general slopes from the higher land on the south-west border to the steep banks of the Irwell.

Lower Kearsley, by the bridge over that river, is often called Ringley, being considered part of Ringley in Pilkington.

Kearsley proper clusters along the south-east end of the main road mentioned; but Farnworth is extending over the Kearsley borders in the north, and Stoneclough is a hamlet near the Irwell on the road to Radcliffe. Clammerclough is a district to the north-west of the last-named, and lies between Darley in Farnworth and the Irwell. Kearsley Moss formerly occupied the south-west quarter of the township. The Manchester and Bolton line of the Lancashire and Yorkshire Company passes through Kearsley parallel to the high road, and has a station near Stoneclough called Kearsley.

In 1901 the population recorded was 9,218.²

The township is a busy industrial place. There are collieries, iron foundries, paper mills, powerloom mills, spindle works, and chemical works;³ bricks and tiles are made and cotton-spinning carried on.

A local board was formed in 1865;⁴ in 1894 this was replaced by an urban district council of twelve members elected by two wards, east and west.

William Hulme's house, with seven hearths, was the only large one in the township in 1666, when the total number of hearths liable to the tax amounted to thirty-nine.⁵

Dorning Rasbotham in 1787 wrote thus:—'Oak and alder trees have been found deeply embedded in the turf upon Kearsley moor. The timber was as black as ebony,' but not so well preserved as usual.⁶

There was anciently no manor of *MANOR KEARSLEY*, which was merely a part of Farnworth, itself a hamlet in Barton. The earliest deed relating to it is a grant of the whole by Edith de Barton to Cockersand Abbey.⁷ A number of the neighbouring families had lands and common rights in Kearsley, and one of the lords of Farnworth appears to have been specially associated with it, so that it will be convenient to give the descent of his family in this place.

Richard son of Adam de Redford, who was living in 1276, is the earliest on record.⁸ He was succeeded

⁶⁸ Barton, *Farnworth*, 246–50.

⁶⁹ *Manch. Dioc. Dir.* For district see *Lond. Gaz.* 14 Sept. 1880. Barton, op. cit. 241–4; schoolroom services had been held from 1867.

⁷⁰ Barton, op. cit. 227, 234. Assemblies for public worship began at Dixon Green about 1810. A chapel was built in Market Street in 1830, and a larger one in Church Street in 1860–1. A school chapel at Moses Gate was opened in 1872, and a chapel built five years later.

⁷¹ Ibid. 232. A mission was begun in 1835 and the first chapel in Queen Street built in 1840, succeeded by a larger in 1860.

⁷² Nightingale, *Lancs. Nonconf.* iii, 143.

⁷³ Barton, op. cit. 409; services had begun in hired rooms and then in a cottage in 1873.

⁷⁴ Ibid. 162; the old chapel was enlarged in 1837, and the present Market Street Chapel opened in 1850, the old building continuing in use for classrooms, &c. Schools were established at Dixon Green and New Bury. Albert Road Chapel, originating at the former

centre in 1856, was opened in 1862; the first Francis Street Chapel in 1869, and the second in 1884; *ibid.* 182–90; Nightingale, op. cit. iii, 135–49, views of the four churches are given. There is also a mission-room.

¹ 1,005, including 25 of inland water, according to the 1901 Census Report.

² *Pop. Returns*, 1901.

³ Clammerclough Cotton Mill was built about 1828; Barton, *Farnworth*, 84. Benjamin Rawson's Alkali Works were established earlier.

⁴ *Lond. Gaz.* 17 Oct. 1865. In Barton's *Farnworth*, pp. 89–101, are printed extracts from the township books from 1809 onwards. The constables and burley men were officials.

⁵ Subs. R. bdle. 250, no. 9, Lancs.

⁶ Barton, *Farnworth*, 16.

⁷ *Cockersand Chartul.* (Chet. Soc.), ii, 709. This charter gives a portion of her land in Farnworth, 'the whole of Kearsley with all its appurtenances' within bounds as follows:—Up the deep lache from Irwell towards Stockbridge, then going down Flethithaleth to the Irwell again; for the health of the soul of Edith's son John.

Kearsley is not named in the Cockersand Rentals, so that the grant may have been revoked or exchanged.

⁸ Assize R. 1238, m. 34.

In 1294 Richard son of Adam de Redford released to Adam son of John de Lever all his claim to lands held by the latter in Farnworth and Great Lever; Towneley's *Lever Chartul.* (Add.MS.32103 no. 1–260), no. 53. The same Richard gave to Adam de Lever, for the service of an arrow, land which Henry de Blinds-hill had approved beyond Walkden; no. 27. To his brother Henry he granted all the land of Hassumbottom, the Hokenasape and Ritherake being among the boundary marks, no. 40. To Richard son of John de Hulton he granted 6 acres on the north side of Walkden Bank, at a rent of a pair of white gloves, Richard de Hulton at the same time allowing certain improvements of the waste of Farnworth; no. 43. The elder Richard was still living in 1297 when, as Richard de Redford the elder, he released to Robert son of Jordan (de Hulton), rector of Warrington, all his right in land in Barton and Farnworth; no. 69.

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regularly by his descendants, Richard,⁹ John,¹⁰ and another Richard. The last-named, who married Alice daughter of Robert de Worsley,¹¹ left two daughters as co-heirs—Ellen, who married Adam son of Henry de Prestall,¹² and Alice, who married a Standish, and left a daughter and heir Joan, wife of Richard Seddon.¹³

⁹ Richard de Redford the younger attested a charter in 1295; Towneley's Lever Chartul. (Add. MS. 32102, no. 1-260), no. 60; and another in 1297 as Richard son of Richard de Redford; no. 69. In the year before he had made an agreement with Adam de Lever respecting the mediety of three parts of improvements in Hope Hey and opposite Blindeshill and Whitecroft; no. 59. From Henry de Worsley he procured a confirmation of his common of pasture within bounds beginning at Hope Lache, at the Farnworth end of it, then by the Hope Hey to Wicheshaw Lydiate in Wich-eves in Worsley (Little Hulton), by the highway to Longshaw, and straight to the Edge in Lepar Lache, by Black Lache to Walden Brook, and up the brook to the Hope and the starting-point; no. 67. He made an exchange with Henry son of John de Hulton in 1299; no. 72. Richard de Redford was one of the lords of Farnworth in 1320; *Mamecestre* (Chet. Soc.), 289.

¹⁰ John de Redford was a witness in 1316; Lever Chartul. no. 81. To John son of Henry de Hulton he in 1321 released all his right in the mill and land called Peck in the hamlet of Farnworth and in all land of the mill within the lanes by which the king's highway went on to Manchester, John de Hulton allowing him to grind freely at the mill; no. 86. From Adam son of Henry de Blindeshill, he in 1326 acquired the land called Ashinbottom (no doubt the Hassumbottom of a previous charter); no. 88. In 1341 he agreed to an exchange of lands—in the Newfield, the Marsh, and Black Bottom—with John de Hulton; no. 93.

¹¹ Richard son of John de Redford in 1350 received from his feeoffee all his lands in Farnworth, with remainders to his heirs by Alice; *ibid.* no. 94. At the same time a rent-charge of 13s. 4d. out of the Farnworth lands was settled on Alice daughter of Robert de Worsley; no. 95.

¹² The Prestall family occur in the 13th century; Adam son of Eve de 'Presthall' being named in 1278 and 1392; Assize R. 1238, m. 34; 418, m. 3d. The same Adam was witness to a Farnworth charter; Lever Chartul. no. 24; in 1299 he had a release of actions from William son of Richard the Chief; no. 70. Probably he is the same as Adam son of Henry de Prestall who received from the first Richard de Redford a grant of a mediety of three parts of Farnworth, the boundaries following Rodenden to the Irwell, by this stream to Greenlache, up the lache to the highway, and so back to the starting-point; no. 21. This land he gave to Adam de Lever; the rent of 6d. was due to the chief lords; no. 22.

Early in 1330 Henry de Prestall, perhaps the son or grandson of Adam, received from Adam de Lever the mediety of three parts of Prestall Banks, a rent of 7½d. being payable; *ibid.* no. 90. Richard de Farnworth, as trustee, in 1350 restored to Henry de Prestall all his lands in the hamlet of Farnworth in the vill of Barton, with remainder, after his death, to Agnes daughter of Robert de Walkden, for her

life, and then to Agnes' children Adam, Philippa, and Maud, and their heirs, in succession, and in default to the right heirs of Henry de Prestall; Lord Ellesmere's D. no. 82. In 1364 Henry de Prestall gave to Adam son of Agnes, daughter of Robert de Walkden, all his lands in Farnworth, with similar remainders; *ibid.* no. 83. From its terms this grant was probably made on Adam's marriage.

An indenture of 1394 has been preserved, made between Ellen and Alice, daughters and co-heirs of Richard de Redford, concerning land called Herefield in Kearsley; from this agreement for partition it appears that Ellen was then the widow of (Adam) de Prestall and Alice the widow of Jordan de Tetlow; Lever Chartul. no. 260.

¹³ The pedigrees of the Redford heirs were compiled in 1598 by Ralph Assheton of Great Lever; but as to the Seddon portion he is careful to state: 'I had it but by the report of Thomas Marcroft, without the sight of his evidence,' though for the other portion 'I set it down by the sight of my own evidence'; *ibid.* fol. 70b. From the deed last quoted it is plain that Alice married a second time.

In 1473 Adam Prestall held of the lord of Manchester his capital messuage with the appurtenances, value £10 a year, by a rent of 6d.; and Richard Seddon held a messuage, &c., value 5 marks, also by a rent of 6d.; *Mamecestre*, 478.

¹⁴ The paternity of Richard is not stated in the deeds preserved.

Among the De Trafford deeds are some relating to Farnworth. The land to which they refer had belonged to Robert son of Robert de Walkden in 1380; he granted it to Robert de Walkden, bastard son of Cecily de Hough, who, with his brother John, sold it to Richard de Prestall in the beginning of the reign of Henry VI; no. 299-308. Adam de Prestall was a witness in 1380; no. 300. Richard's mother was named Ellen, his wife was Elizabeth, and his son and heir Adam was in 1425 espoused to Margaret, daughter of Otes de Holland; no. 308, 309.

In 1419 Richard Prestall leased to Hugh son of Jack Hulton land then occupied by Hugh in Farnworth, with remainder to Hugh's brother Roger; Ellesmere D. no. 91. In 1426 William and Roger Lever were bound to Richard Prestall, and he to them, in £100 to abide an arbitration as to certain disputes; Lever Chartul. no. 116. In 1445 Richard Prestall complained that Giles Lever of Barton and a number of others had broken into his close and destroyed his corn and grass; Pal. of Lanc. Plea R. 7, m. 5b. A little later John Lever made a similar complaint, Richard Prestall, William Prestall, and Richard, William's son, being among the accused; *ibid.* R. 8, m. 3.

Another arbitration took place in 1478, Alice widow of Richard Prestall and Sir Geoffrey Massey being on one side, and Sir Ralph Assheton, Ralph his son, and others named on the other side; the latter had to pay to the former a certain

The Prestalls' share descended to a son Richard¹⁴ and granddaughters Joan and Isabel. Joan Prestall was three times married. Her first marriage, in infancy, was not ratified; her second husband was John Leigh, by whom she had a son Thomas,¹⁵ whose son Richard sold the inheritance to Ralph Assheton of Great Lever;¹⁶ her third husband was Edmund Bolton,

sum of money 'in the chapel of St. James the Apostle in the parish church of Manchester between the hour of ix of the clock afore noon and the third hour after noon'; Ellesmere D. no. 226.

¹⁵ Lever Chartul. no. 239-59, the record of a long series of disputes concerning this portion of the Prestall inheritance, arising from the child marriage of Joan with Adam Prestall. It may be observed that the Leighs are described as 'of Highfield' in Farnworth, for the Redford properties were not confined to Kearsley.

In 1510 John Ashley of Ashley in Cheshire agreed with Edward Bolton and Joan his wife, late wife of John Leigh of Highfield, one of the daughters and heirs of Richard Prestall, concerning the marriage of Thomas Leigh, son and heir of John and Joan, with Elizabeth, daughter of John Ashley; no. 229. Alice, the mother of Joan, and Isabel her sister, wife of Henry Southworth, are mentioned.

In 1527 Thomas Leigh of Prestall and James son of Edmund Bolton of Highfield, referred their disputes to arbitration, which resulted in favour of the former; no. 240. An exchange was made.

About 1555 the contention as to the legitimacy of the Leighs was brought to a trial. James Bolton alleged that Joan Prestall married (1) Adam Prestall, who died without issue, and (2) Edmund Bolton, father of the petitioner (who was only twelve years old at his mother's death and under age at his father's); the Leigh marriage was adulterous; no. 245. Thomas Leigh, one of the six children of John and Joan Leigh, made reply; he had been in possession for twenty-six years, viz. from the death of Edmund Bolton; no. 246. About 1557 Cuthbert, Bishop of Chester, certified that the disputed marriage was lawful, no. 254; but on the accession of Elizabeth a new petition was made, and in 1561 the queen ordered the new Bishop of Chester to make inquiry as to the disputed marriage; no. 247. This was favourable to its legality, and in 1562 an award was made between James Bolton and George, his son and heir apparent, on the one side, and Thomas Leigh and Richard, his son and heir apparent, on the other. The latter were adjudged in the right, but directed to make a lease of certain lands at a rent of 6s. 8d. to James Bolton; no. 248-52.

In 1575 Thomas Leigh of Highfield and Richard his son, with Richard's wife Katherine, sold Prestall to James Bolton; no. 253. This seems to have been followed by a fine in 1578, Thomas Leigh being dead; Pal. of Lanc. Feet of F. bdlle. 40, m. 38.

¹⁶ The fact of sale is stated in the pedigree compiled by Ralph Assheton, but the deeds are not transcribed. In the inquiry the lands in Kearsley are grouped with those in Farnworth; *Lancs. Inq. p.m.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), ii, 287. A 'manor' of Kearsley is mentioned in 1628; Pal. of Lanc. Feet of F. bdlle. 114, no. 8.

The Leigh family continued to hold property in Farnworth down to the end of the 18th century; Barton, *Farnworth*, 159.

whose great-grandson, Robert Bolton, was living in 1598, and had Prestall.¹⁷ Isabel, the other Prestall co-heir, married Henry Southworth, but had no children, and her share was sold to the Traffords.¹⁸

The Seddons' share descended to Giles,¹⁹ Ralph, and Thomas Seddon, son, grandson, and great-grandson respectively of Joan and Richard. Thomas Seddon, who died during his father's lifetime, left two daughters as co-heirs. Elizabeth, the elder, married Thomas Marcroft,²⁰ and had a son Robert; Cecily, the younger, married Peter Seddon, and left a son Ralph, described as 'of Pilkington.'²¹

Of all these the Boltons and Marcrofts are specially associated with Kearsley. There does not appear to be any record of their history. Robert Marcroft sold his lands to Richard Ashton, who in 1651 sold to the Starkies of Huntroyde; Kearsley Hall is still in the possession of this family.²² In 1836 Ellis Fletcher of Clifton owned the waste.²³ The only 'manor' of Kearsley claimed in recent times is that of the Hultons of Over Hulton, apparently as part of the

Farnworth estate acquired from the Hultons of Farnworth.²⁴

Kearsley occurs as a surname.²⁵

In 1790 the principal landowners were Le Gendre Starkie, Sir John Mosley, and Jonathan Dorning.²⁶

Kearsley Hall was in the 17th century the residence of William Hulme, the founder of the Hulmeian exhibitions at Brasenose College, Oxford.²⁷

In connexion with the Established Church, St. John's, Halshaw Moor, on the boundary of Farnworth, was built in 1826, and had a district assigned to it in 1829.²⁸ The incumbent, with the designation of vicar of Farnworth, is appointed by Hulme's trustees. St. Stephen's, Kearsley Moor, was built in 1871; the vicar of Farnworth is patron.²⁹

The Wesleyan and Primitive Methodists each have chapels.³⁰

The Congregational Church, built in 1901, replaces a school-chapel. A Sunday school had been held as early as 1845.³¹

The Swedenborgians have a place of worship known as New Jerusalem.³²

¹⁷ See previous note. Robert Bolton of Kearsley frequently served on juries in the time of James I. He died 30 Aug. 1638, holding a house and lands in Kearsley, Farnworth, and Worsley of the lord of Manchester; Robert his son and heir was twenty-eight years of age; Towneley MS. C. 8, 13 (Chet. Lib.), 65.

¹⁸ This statement is taken from the pedigree compiled by Ralph Assheton. Sir Edmund Trafford and Edmund his son and heir in 1582 joined in selling twenty messuages, a water-mill, &c., in Prestall, Kearsley, and Farnworth to Nicholas Mosley; Pal. of Lanc. Feet of F. bdl. 44, no. 39. These lands subsequently appear in the Mosley inquisitions; *Lancs. Inq. p.m.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), ii, 66.

¹⁹ In 1494 Joan widow of John Hulton of Farnworth granted to Giles Seddon of Kearsley all the lands which Oliver Seddon had held of her in Kearsley and Rudaden; Lever Chartul. no. 197; and in 1506 Ralph Assheton the younger likewise demised to Giles Seddon of Kearsley, Katherine his wife, and John, Adam, and Arthur Seddon their sons, lands tenanted by Oliver Seddon; no. 198.

In 1553 Thomas Marcroft and Elizabeth his wife and Peter Seddon and Cecily his wife sought lands in Kearsley and Farnworth from Giles and William Seddon; *Ducatus Lanc.* (Rec. Com.), i, 279.

²⁰ Richard Leigh of Highfield and Thomas Marcroft of Kearsley were among the proprietors of Farnworth in 1598; Lever Chartul. no. 204. Thomas

Marcroft of Kearsley was living in 1600; *Misc.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), i, 249.

²¹ A division of a tenement in Kearsley held in common by Henry, Earl of Derby, Ralph Assheton of Great Lever, and Ralph Seddon of Pilkington, was made in 1589. The tenement had been Oliver Seddon's, and the following rents were due from it: To the Earl of Derby, 22d.; to Ralph Assheton, 10s. and four hens; and to Ralph Seddon, 6s., two hens, and two days' 'shearing' (reaping). The lands held by Thomas Marcroft in right of his wife Elizabeth are mentioned; Lever Chartul. no. 205.

A 'manor' of Kearsley is mentioned among the Earl of Derby's possessions in 1631; Pal. of Lanc. Feet of F. bdl. 118, no. 1.

Peter Seddon of Prestolee in Prestwich, and Ralph Smith of Unsworth, trustees of Hugh Parr of Kearsley, and John Parr, his only son and heir apparent, settled lands in Kearsley and a house in Manchester in 1654; Hulme D. 111.

For the Seddons of Outwood and Kearsley see *Nathan Walworth's Correspondence* (Chet. Soc.).

²² Information of Mr. Daniel Howsin of Padiham.

²³ Baines, *Lancs.* iii, 42.

²⁴ Kearsley was usually named among the Hulton manors; e.g. Pal. of Lanc. Feet of F. bdl. 321, m. 3.

²⁵ Richard de Redford, Adam de Lever, and Richard the Chief granted to John son of Adam de Kearsley 3 acres of the

waste in Backbottom, with housebote, heybote, and other liberties; Lever Chartul. no. 30. The compiler has added a note that the land was (in 1607) supposed to be the Little Heys, part held by Thomas Marcroft and part by Oliver Seddon.

See *Lancs. and Chet. Hist. and Gen. Notes*, i, 249.

²⁶ Land tax returns at Preston.

²⁷ Barton, *Farnworth*, 143. See the account of Reddish.

²⁸ *Lond. Gaz.* 13 Jan. 1829. It was built under the 'Million Act,' by which several Lancashire districts benefited. For an account of the origin and progress of this church see Barton, *Farnworth*, 191-216. The foundation stone was laid in 1824; the church was opened in 1826, and greatly enlarged in 1871.

²⁹ For district, *Lond. Gaz.* 6 Feb. 1872. The foundation stone was laid in 1870, and the church was consecrated in July 1871; Barton, op. cit. 236-40.

³⁰ Ibid. 231, 365. The Wesleyans began to hold Sunday services in 1835; the chapel was built in 1870. Meetings had begun even earlier in Lower Kearsley; schools were built in 1836 and a chapel in 1865.

³¹ B. Nightingale, *Lancs. Nonconf.* iii, 142.

³² Barton, op. cit. 372-5; services were begun in 1827, and a chapel erected in 1836; the present church was dedicated in 1878. The Rev. Woodville Woodman, pastor from 1837 to 1872, was a man of some note.

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FLIXTON

FLIXTON

URMSTON

The parish of Flixton,¹ a compact area of three plough-lands ancient assessment lying in the tongue between the Irwell and Mersey, appears to have been cut off from Barton; the boundary between them is a straight line running east and west, while the eastern boundary is merely a part of that between Barton and Stretford, also a straight line running south from the boundary of Whittleswick to the Mersey. Similarly the division between the component townships of Flixton is a straight line running southwards. The area is 2,581 acres, and the population in 1901 was 10,250. The geological formation consists of the Upper Mottled Sandstone (Bunter series) of the New Red Sandstone.

From its position the parish has had a quiet and uneventful history. It lies out of touch with the old main roads from Manchester to Warrington and to Chester, and only one of its local gentry has taken any prominent part in the movements of the day, namely Peter Egerton of Shaw, an active partisan of the Parliament during the Civil War.

To the ancient 'fifteenth' Flixton paid 14*s.* 6*d.* and Urmston 8*s.* 6*d.*, the hundred in all paying £41 14*s.* 4*d.*² For the county lay of 1624 Flixton was assessed at £3 7*s.* 5½*d.* when the hundred paid £100, the townships of Flixton and Urmston contributing in the proportions of seven and four.³

The parishioners of Flixton making the Protestation in 1641 numbered 171, being headed by the two squires and the curate.⁴

To the hearth tax of 1666 eighty-nine hearths were found liable in Flixton, where the only house with more than four hearths was that of Leonard Egerton, with eleven; and sixty hearths in Urmston, where the chief houses were those of Roger Rogers and Richard Starkie, with nine and six hearths respectively.⁵

There are at present 863 acres of arable land in the parish, 813 devoted to permanent grass, and 3 to woods and plantations.

The church of *ST. MICHAEL* stands *CHURCH* at the east end of the village on high ground about 250 yds. north of the River Mersey with a very extensive view from the churchyard southward over Carrington Moss. It consists of chancel 27 ft. by 17 ft., with north vestry and organ chamber, nave 36 ft. 6 in. by 17 ft. 6 in. with north and south aisles, and west tower 13 ft. square. These measurements are all internal. The south aisle extends the whole length of the nave and chancel, and is 61 ft. 4 in. long by 12 ft. 3 in. wide. The north aisle is the same width and 37 ft. 10 in. in length. Though the foundation is a very ancient one, and a church is known to have existed here since the 12th century, the present structure retains

so little ancient work that little or nothing can be said of the development of the plan. Two fragments of what appear to be 12th-century stones with lozenge ornament are built into the east wall on the outside, but apart from these the oldest work in the building is contained in the chancel, which, in something of its present form, dates from the 15th century. It has been so much rebuilt, however, that little or nothing of the original work remains except in the reconstructed walling, the lower part of which appears to be old or entirely rebuilt of ancient masonry.

The 15th-century church apparently occupied pretty much the same area as at present, with the exception of the north vestry, and stood in all probability till the 18th century. In 1731 the parish rebuilt the tower⁶ in the style of the day, and in 1756 the nave and aisles. The chancel had to be partly rebuilt in 1815, when one of the piers gave way and the wall fell in.⁷ In 1851 the north-east vestry was built; and in 1863, the tower, of which there had been a partial restoration in 1824, was declared unsafe, and the ringing of the bells was stopped. A general restoration took place in 1877, when the galleries which had been erected in the 18th century were removed, the ceiling opened out, new seats put in, and two doors, one at the west end of the north aisle and the other at the east end of the south aisle, were built up. In 1888 the tower was entirely rebuilt and the ringing of the bells resumed. The church is built of red sandstone, the roofs of the chancel, nave, and aisles being covered with stone slates, and that of the vestry with green slates.

The chancel of two bays is open to the nave without structural division and has an east window of late 15th-century style, of three cinquefoiled lights under a four-centred head in modern stonework. Its east wall stands slightly in front of those of the vestry and south aisle, and has diagonal buttresses at the angles. On the north are the vestry and organ chamber, and on the south an aisle. Before the building of the vestry the north wall was solid, with an external buttress,⁸ but has now an arcade of two low arches of two chamfered orders springing from an octagonal shaft and responds with moulded capitals. The west respond is built against a 3 ft. length of old walling which marks the extent of the north aisle. The vestry and organ chamber are built in 15th-century style, and are separated from the aisle by an arch constructed when the east wall of the aisle was taken down. On the south side the chancel has an arcade of two pointed arches of two chamfered orders, the crowns of which come immediately under the wall plate. They spring from octagonal shafts 21 in. in diameter with moulded capitals and chamfered bases, and are probably a modern copy of the

¹ For map of this parish, see Eccles.

² Gregson, *Fragments* (ed. Harland), 18.

³ *Ibid.* 15, 22.

⁴ Richard Lawson, *Hist. of Flixton* (1898), 148, 149. This work, containing

a large amount of information regarding the parish, has been freely drawn upon in the present account. A similar work, published in the same year by David Herbert Langton, has also been used.

⁵ Subs. R. bdlc. 250, no. 9.

⁶ Inscription on tower 'This steeple was rebuilt at ye sole charge of ye Parish Anno Domini 1731.'

⁷ Baines, *Lancs.* (1836), iii, 164.

⁸ See drawing of building in 1731, in Lawson, *Hist. of Flixton*, 5.

original 15th-century arcade, erected after the accident of 1815. The height of the pillars to the top of the capitals is 7 ft. 9 in., but on the north side the pier to the new arcade is only 5 ft. 3 in., and the arch above of corresponding height, leaving a wide extent of wall space above, which has lately been decorated with a frieze of painted figures. This difference in height is accounted for by the roof of the vestry being considerably lower than the roofs of the chancel or aisle. The nave arcade of the 15th-century church was a continuation westward of that on the south side of the chancel, but in the 18th century it was swept away and the present classic nave and aisles erected between the newly-built tower and the older chancel. The nave has three semicircular arches on each side, springing from circular stuccoed columns of the Tuscan order standing on pedestals 3 ft. high. There are three columns on the north side and two on the south, with a half column against the upper part of the octagonal stone pier at the east end. The junction of the 18th-century work with that of the chancel is clumsily effected, and indicates the evident intention to carry the rebuilding eastward. The spacing of the bays on the north and south is unequal, the columns not coming opposite each other, and on the north the beginning of a fourth semicircular arch butts against the wall at the west end of the chancel. The north aisle extends slightly further westward than the south, and is lighted by three high round-headed windows on the north side and one at the west, with moulded sills, architraves, imposts, and keystones. The south aisle is lighted along its side by four similar windows and one at each end. In the south-west corner is a semicircular-headed doorway with pilasters and pediment, and a smaller round-headed window over. The nave and aisles have open timbered roofs of plain king-post type.

The tower, as previously stated, is a modern rebuilding of the 18th-century one, and has a round arch towards the nave. It is of three stages marked by string-courses, with a vice in its south-west corner entered from the outside, and is a mixture of classic and 18th-century Gothic detail of no particular architectural interest, but a fair example of its kind. The angles, like those of the aisles, have drafted quoins, and at the corners of the embattled parapet are urn ornaments. The lower stage has a round-headed west doorway with a three-light debased Gothic window breaking the string-course above, and over it

the inscription recording the rebuilding of the tower in 1731. The upper stage on each side has a round-headed three-light window with stone louvres and label over. The window head has a keystone round which the cornice above breaks, and which is carried up as an intermediate pilaster in the middle of the parapet surmounted by an urn. In the second stage on the north side is an inscription to the effect that the tower was rebuilt in 1888 in commemoration of Queen Victoria's Jubilee. There is a clock presented in 1889 in the second stage on the north and east sides.

There is a 17th-century oak chest in the vestry, but generally speaking all the fittings of the church are modern, mostly dating from 1877 or later. The font is under the tower, and an oak screen separating the baptistery from the nave was erected in 1903.

At the west end of the south aisle was formerly a brass to the memory of Richard Radcliffe of Newcroft (died 1602), but during a recent decoration of the church it has been removed to the vestry. It bears



FLIXTON CHURCH : SOUTH-EAST VIEW

the figures of Radcliffe in armour and his two wives, kneeling at each side of a book desk, with the three sons of the first wife, and the two sons, three daughters, and three infants (swaddled) of the second. The first wife Bridget (Caryll) widow of W. Molyneux, kneels with her three sons opposite to Radcliffe, while the second wife and her children kneel behind him. Over the desk is a shield with the arms of Radcliffe of Ordsall with helm, crest, and mantling, and on each side a shield with the arms of Radcliffe impaling those of his wives.^{8a}

There is no ancient stained glass.

Until 1806 there were four bells, of which one,

^{8a} The inscription is as follows : 'Here lyeth y^e bodie of Richard Radclyff Esquire of Newcroft, yongest sonne to S^r William Radclyff of Ordsall, whoe in his life was Captaine over CC. foote at y^e siege of Leeghte, & at y^e rebellion in y^e north, hee had first to wife Brigett y^e daught : of Thomas Carell of Warnam in y^e County

of Sussex y^e widowe of W. Mollynex sonne & heyre of S^r Richard Mollinex and had issue by her 3 sonnes. He had to his 2 wife Margret y^e daught : & heyre of John Radclyffe of Foxdenton, & had issue by her 2 sonnes & 6 daughters whereof 5 daughters are deceased. He being of the age of 67 years departed this

life the 13th of Ianuaire in Añō. Dōm. 1602.' The two last lines have been renewed in modern lettering on a separate strip of brass. They formerly read 'where of v daughters are deceased. He beinge of the age of 67 years, deceased the 13th of Ianuarie in Añō Dōm 1602.'

A HISTORY OF LANCASHIRE

known as the poor folks' bell, was subscribed for by the villagers. Three of them bore the motto 'Jesus be our speed,' and the fourth 'Leonard Asshawe, Peter Egerton, Esq. 1624.'⁹ These were recast in 1806 by John Rudhall of Gloucester, and four new ones added by public subscription, the first peal being rung on 25 January 1808. On arrival at Flixton the tenor bell was placed mouth upwards in a field and ten guineas' worth of double strong ale put in for the populace to regale themselves with.¹⁰ Some of the bells were recast by Taylor of Loughborough in 1887.

The curfew is rung between 29 September and 25 March, and a bell, locally called the 'Pudding bell,' is rung every Sunday at one o'clock and again at two, the origin of which is said to have been to let the people of Carrington know that there would be service at Flixton in the afternoon.

The plate consists of a flagon, 1776 (the gift of William Allan, esq., Davyhulme), a chalice and two patens, and a large almsdish, 1875.

The registers begin in 1570. There is a loose leaf of the churchwardens' accounts for the year 1690-91, but the account books do not begin till 1707.¹¹

Additions to the churchyard were made in 1868 and 1887. The oldest gravestone is dated 1669, and there is a pedestal sundial on the south side of the church with the names of the churchwardens and maker (James Sandiford, a Manchester clock-maker), and the date 1772.

The advowson of the church before **ADVOWSON** longed to the Grelley moiety of Flixton, and was granted with it to Henry son of Siward. On the foundation of Bur-

scough the church was granted to the priory,¹² and appears to have remained in its possession till far on into the 13th century.¹³ Then, by some unknown means, the rectory was acquired by Bishop Roger Meuland about 1290 and transferred to the cathedral of Lichfield, becoming the portion of one of the prebendaries, who took his title from it.¹⁴ William Burnell died possessed of the prebend of Flixton in 1303,¹⁵ but nothing is stated as to any appropriation in the *Taxation* of Pope Nicholas in 1291, when the annual value was returned as £4 13s. 4d.¹⁶ The prebendaries, who leased out the tithes, &c.,¹⁷ appointed a resident curate, this system continuing until the patronage was about 1860 transferred to the Bishop of Manchester, as representing the Bishop of Lichfield, who had collated to the rectory-prebend.¹⁸ The incumbents are styled rectors, and have the tithe rent-charge and glebe.¹⁹ The value of the ninth of the wool, &c., in 1341 was £4.²⁰ In 1534 the prebend was valued at £7 or £10.²¹ The Commonwealth surveyors in 1650 found that the farmer of the tithes, Peter Egerton of Shaw, had assigned a house to the curate, worth £20 a year, and also, by order of the Committee of Plundered Ministers, paid him the £16 rent due to the prebendary.²² Bishop Gastrell, about 1717, recorded that the lessee paid the curate £30 a year, and surplice fees and other dues amounted to £4 more.²³ The present income is £300 with a house.²⁴

The following have been curates²⁵ and rectors:—

oc. 1541	Nicholas Smith ²⁶
oc. 1547	Ralph Birch ²⁷
oc. 1552-4	Edward Smith ²⁸

⁹ In 1558 Leonard Asshawe left money in his will for the purchase of bells for the church. His intention seems to have been carried out and the bells recast in 1624 at the expense of Peter Egerton of Shaw.

¹⁰ *Manch. Guard. Local N. and Q.* no. 1095, 1108.

¹¹ Lawson, *Flixton*, 24, 43; the accounts for 1708 and 1724 are printed in full. Copious extracts will be found also in Langton, *Flixton*, 53-71. For briefs, p. 24; and for the constables' accounts, see Lawson, op. cit. 64. The register for 1688-9 is printed in *Pal. Note Bk.* iii, 28.

¹² Documents relating to it are printed in the *Dep. Keeper's Rep.* xxxv, App. 35; and *ibid.* xxxvi, App. 200; also in Farrer, *Lancs. Pipe R.* 350-5. From these it appears that Robert son of Henry de Lathom granted the church of Flixton and its appurtenances to the priory about 1189. A little later Roger son of Henry and Henry son of Bernard granted the church in pure alms to Henry the Clerk, son of Richard, for his life. This presentation appears to have been opposed by the canons, but by a local inquiry it was found that Henry son of Siward had last presented in the time of peace, and that Roger and Henry were his heirs. Henry the Clerk, of the Tarbock family, about 1230 resigned all his claim to the prior and canons, receiving a pension of 2 marks, payable by Master Andrew the physician, the rector.

¹³ Flixton Church was included in charters of confirmation received from William, Bishop of Lichfield, in 1216; and from his successor Alexander in 1232, the Dean and Chapter of Lichfield and

the Prior and Convent of Coventry assenting; *Dep. Keeper's Rep.* xxxv, loc. cit.

Robert de Hulton released his claim to the patronage, but in 1269 the Prior of Burscough asserted his right to the patronage against Jordan de Hulton; *Dep. Keeper's Rep.* xxxvi, loc. cit.; *Curia Regis R.* 194, m. 36; 196, m. 10; 215, m. 5.

Few names of the earlier rectors are known. Master Andrew is named in the last note. In 1246 William, rector of Flixton, claimed Gilbert de Nutchil and Adam the Earl as his 'natives,' but did not appear in court; *Assize R.* 404, m. 7. Adam the Earl (*comes*) attested several Barton Charters.

¹⁴ Le Neve, *Fasti* (ed. Hardy), i, 602. The most notable name in the list of prebendaries which is given is that of William de Wykeham, afterwards Bishop of Winchester, who exchanged this stall for other preferment in 1361.

In 1387 the king claimed the right of presentation to the church of Flixton, then vacant. This probably refers to the prebend; William Boule was the defendant while William de Borel is given as prebendary by Le Neve; *Coram Rege R. Hil.* 10 Ric. II, pt. ii, m. 2 d.

¹⁵ Le Neve, *Fasti*.

¹⁶ *Pope Nich. Tax.* (Rec. Com.), 249.

¹⁷ See *Ducatus Lanc.* (Rec. Com.), iii, 312, 513. Sometimes the right to nominate a curate was included in the lease.

¹⁸ 'In 1756 the nomination of the incumbent was claimed by the Warden and Fellows of Manchester, but without sufficient title'; Raines, in *Notitia Cestr.* (Chet. Soc.), ii, 56.

¹⁹ In 1863 the benefice was endowed with the tithe rent-charge formerly pertain-

ing to the prebend of Offley with Flixton in Lichfield Cathedral; and three years later it was declared a rectory; *Lond. Gas.* 20 Nov. 1863; 3 April 1866.

²⁰ *Inq. Non.* (Rec. Com.), 39. Flixton answered for 53s. 4d. and Urmston for 26s. 8d.

²¹ *Valor Eccl.* (Rec. Com.), iii, 132; v, 226.

²² *Commonwealth Ch. Surv.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), 16. The commissioners approved of the situation of the church 'about the middle of the parish, very convenient for the parishioners to resort unto.' The tithes were worth about £42 a year; and those of Urmston about £27. Peter Egerton had secured a lease for three lives from the late Stockett Lutwich, prebendary. See also *Plund. Mins. Accts.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), i, 37, 63, 87.

²³ *Notitia Cestr.* ii, 55; the total value of the prebend seems to have been £65 a year. In 1673 the church had three wardens and three assistants.

²⁴ *Manch. Dioc. Dir.* In 1833 the endowment was stated to be £600 private benefaction, £200 royal bounty, and £1,400 Parliamentary grant.

²⁵ John del Wood of Flixton, chaplain, occurs in 1367; *P.R.O. Anct. D. C.* 1196.

²⁶ *Clergy List* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), 13; he was paid by Mr. Nicholas Darlington, the prebendary.

²⁷ *Visit. List* of 1548 in the Chester Dioc. Registry. Birch's name is erased, and 'Edward Smith, curate,' inserted. This may have been done in preparation for the next visitation.

²⁸ *Ibid.* 1554; also *Ch. Gds.* 1552 (Chet. Soc.), 10, and Piccope, *Wills* (Chet. Soc.), iii, 57.

- oc. 1563 Robert Radcliffe²⁹
 1565 Richard Smith³⁰
 oc. 1588 Nicholas Higson³¹
 oc. 1604 William Hodgkinson³²
 c. 1610 — Jones³³
 oc. 1613 George Byrom³⁴
 oc. 1622 Edward Woolmer,³⁵ B.A. (Oriel College, and All Souls, Oxford)
 1660 Thomas Ellison³⁶
 oc. 1663 — Barrett³⁷
 oc. 1664, 1691 John Isherwood, B.A.³⁸
 oc. 1709 Edward Sedgwick³⁹
 1723 John Jones, M.A.⁴⁰
 1752 Samuel Bardsley, B.A.⁴¹
 1756 Humphrey Owen, B.A.⁴² (St. John's College, Oxford)
 1764 Timothy Lowten, M.A.⁴³ (St. John's College, Cambridge)
 1771 Thomas Beeley⁴⁴
 1807 Samuel Stephenson, M.A. (Trinity College, Cambridge)
 1816 Henry Burdett Worthington,⁴⁵ M.A.
 1823 William Asteley Cave Brown Cave,⁴⁶ M.A. (Brasenose College, Oxford)⁴⁷
 1842 Arthur Thomas Gregory,⁴⁸ B.A. (Lincoln College, Oxford)

RECTORS

- 1863 Charles Barton,⁴⁹ B.A. (Dublin)
 1873 Richard Marsden Reece,⁵⁰ B.A. (St. John's College, Cambridge)
 1906 Arthur William Smith

The ecclesiastical history calls for little comment. There were no chantries, and the curate appears to have been the only resident ecclesiastic. At the Reformation the prebendaries of Flixton were conformists,⁵¹ but the curates seem to have changed with each visitation. The church was fairly well provided with 'ornaments' as late as 1552.⁵²

In 1592 the only charges against the curate and wardens were that no collectors for the poor were appointed and that the 12d. fine for not attending church was not levied.⁵³ In 1641 the curate reported that there were no 'delinquents' in the parish, the people 'being all protestants and no papist' among them.⁵⁴ The curate in 1680 was suspended for three years for refusing to read the prayer for the queen, the Duke of York, and the royal family.⁵⁵

Land for a schoolhouse was leased in 1643, but the school seems to have been built in 1662 upon a patch of land by the roadside.⁵⁷ It was sold in 1861.⁵⁸

Each of the townships in the parish *CHARITIES* has some small charitable endowment, the total income being £11 11s. 8d., of which £7 15s. 2d. is for the poor. A few old benefactions have been lost.⁵⁹

²⁹ Visit. List, 1563. A Robert Radcliffe was made subdeacon at Bishop Scott's last ordination, 1558; *Ordin. Bk.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), 113.

³⁰ Visit. List, 1565; T. Jerman, the prebendary, is duly given as rector.

³¹ Buried at Flixton 9 July 1588; Reg.

³² Buried 12 Feb. 1603-4.

³³ *Hist. MSS. Com. Rep.* xiv, App. iv, 12; he was 'a preacher.' Possibly the John Jones who about this time was made vicar of Eccles.

³⁴ From a list prepared by the late Mr. Earwaker.

³⁵ He was 'lecturer' at Flixton in 1622; *Misc.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), i, 66; curate in 1634-6; *ibid.* 95. He took the Parliamentary and Presbyterian side, and signed the 'Harmonious Consent' of 1648. In 1647 he was accused of celebrating 'clandestine marriages'—i.e. possibly according to the Prayer Book form; *Manch. Classis* (Chet. Soc.), i, 79. About the same time the churchwardens were ordered to remove the font; *ibid.* i, 46. Woolmer was described as 'an able and godly minister' in 1650; *Commonwealth Ch. Surv.* 17. He remained in charge till his death, just before the Restoration, being buried 8 May 1660.

³⁶ *Manch. Classis*, iii, 342-7; afterwards rector of Ashton under Lyne.

³⁷ Named by Baines.

³⁸ He signed the registers as minister in 1664. He was 'conformable' in 1689; *Hist. MSS. Com. Rep.* xiv, App. iv, 229. He appears in the Visitation List 1691. He was buried at Eccles as 'late minister of Flixton,' 8 May 1715.

³⁹ Buried at Flixton, Oct. 1722; see also *Notitia Cestr.* ii, 56 n. One of these names was of Jesus College, Cambridge; B.A. 1685.

⁴⁰ He died 8 Sept. 1751, having been more than twenty-eight years the 'faithful and diligent pastor' of the place;

M.I. The Church Papers at Chester begin with him.

⁴¹ Probably the Samuel Bardsley of University College, Oxford, B.A. 1748; Foster, *Alumni*.

⁴² Raines MSS. (Chet. Lib.), xxii, 102. Also rector of St. Mary's, Manchester, 1756-89; died 1790.

⁴³ Scott, *Admissions St. John's C.* iii, 150. He graduated as second wrangler in 1761, and afterwards settled in America; Baines, *Lancs.* (ed. Croston), iii, 308. 'There appears to have been some difference of opinion between Mr. Lowten and some of the parishioners, according to an undated copy of a document I have seen, and which appears to be a petition . . . that as Mr. Lowten, to end the matter, was willing to resign, Mr. Beeley might be his successor. Mr. Lowten was evidently the possessor of a large amount of land in Davyhulme, as £1,070 was yielded from the sale of it in 1769'; R. Lawson, *Flixton*, 20.

⁴⁴ Died 25 Feb. 1807, aged 69; M.I. Probably the Thomas Beeley of Stockport, who matriculated at Oxford (Trinity College) in 1760, aged 21, but did not graduate; Foster, *Alumni*. For notice of John Sudlow, curate about 1794, see R. Lawson, 20.

⁴⁵ Became vicar of Grinton, Yorkshire, in 1822.

⁴⁶ Son of Sir William Cave, ninth baronet; born 1799.

⁴⁷ Educated at Brasenose College, Oxford; M.A. 1824; rector of Stretton en le Field, Derbyshire, 1843; died 1862.

⁴⁸ Exchanged Flixton for the rectory of Trusham, Devon.

⁴⁹ Previously incumbent of Bromborough, 1850; and rector of Trusham 1860. Exchanged for Cheselbourne, Dorset, in 1873.

⁵⁰ Rector of Cheselbourne, 1872. Inhibited 17 June 1884, the church being served by curates in charge.

⁵¹ They were Nicholas Darington 1530-53 (?), and Thomas German 1553-68; Le Neve.

⁵² *Ch. Gds.* (Chet. Soc.), 9, 10. There were two bells in 1552; the number was afterwards doubled, two of the bells bearing date 1624 and 1633; *ibid.* 11.

⁵³ *Lancs. and Ches. Antiq. Soc.* xiii, 63. A piper and his host were censured for playing in a house at evensong on a holiday and giving the sworn man 'bad words.'

⁵⁴ R. Lawson, *op. cit.* 149.

⁵⁵ *Ibid.* quoting 'Raines MS.'

⁵⁷ Lawson, *Flixton* 48; Gastrell, *Notitia*, ii, 57. James Birch was licensed as the master in 1684; Stratford's Visitation List.

⁵⁸ *Endowed Charities Rep.* Flixton, 1900, p. 5.

⁵⁹ An official inquiry was made in Dec. 1899; the report, issued the following year, includes a reprint of the report of 1826. The following is a summary:—

For Flixton Peter Warburton in 1769 left £60, half for the schoolmaster and half for the poor. This was laid out on the workhouse at Flixton, and in 1826 the overseers paid £3 as interest, £1 10s. going to the poor. On the sale of the workhouse in 1861 the guardians paid £60 to the official trustees; the interest, now only 35s. 8d., is paid to the national school. The workhouse building still exists in Moorside Road. Three other benefactions of £10 each, made at the end of the 17th century, were lost by 1807; and £30 for the school by John Wood in 1779 was lost in 1815 in law expenses.

Peter Gregory, before 1786, left £10 for bread for the Urmston poor; land, now called Manchett Field, was purchased with it, and in 1828 the rent of £2 a year was distributed according to the benefactor's wishes under the superintendence of the

A HISTORY OF LANCASHIRE

FLIXTON

Flixton, c. 1200.

The township of Flixton measures about 2½ miles from east to west, with an average breadth of nearly 1½ miles. Its area is 1,564½ acres.⁶⁰ The general slope of the surface is from the north and east towards the opposite boundaries, the Mersey and Irwell, but nowhere is a greater height than 65 ft. above sea-level attained. The village and church lie near the centre of the southern boundary, with Shaw in the south-eastern corner. The population in 1901 was 3,656.⁶¹

The principal road is that from Irlam—where formerly there was a ferry over the Irwell, as now over the ship canal—to Urmston and Stretford. From that road another runs southward to the church and then to the side of the Mersey; there is a bridge over the river at Carrington.⁶² From the church a second road runs east to join the former one at Urmston. The Cheshire Lines Committee's railway from Manchester to Liverpool crosses the township diagonally, and has a station at Flixton, opened in 1873.⁶³ The Manchester Ship Canal passes along the western border, between large embankments, and has recently been adopted as the boundary of the township.⁶⁴ It should be observed that as the Mersey's course has varied from time to time, its stream as at present is not everywhere the exact boundary of the township and county. The land by the river on the south is called the Eea. In the south-west corner the land was assigned partly to Irlam and partly to Flixton.

The annual wake was held on the Sunday next

after St. Michael's Day; it was noted for eel pies.⁶⁵

The government of the place since 1894 has been in the hands of a parish council.

A company of the 1st Volunteer Battalion Manchester Regiment, formed in 1872, practises at the drill hall.

Thomas Wood, a Methodist minister and writer, was born at Flixton in 1761.⁶⁶

The well between Shaw Hall and Shawtown is never known to fail.⁶⁷

Thralam, Cawdoe, and other field-names are recorded in a deed of 1699.⁶⁸

A stone celt was found in 1846 near Shaw Hall.⁶⁹

The stocks in the village were taken down about 1823.⁷¹

The land in the township was formerly to a great extent in the hands of yeomen,⁷² who also were handloom weavers.⁷³

Throwing at cocks on Shrove Tuesday, pace-egging at Easter, and other customs, were practised.⁷⁴

The place first appears in the records *MANORS* as contributing a mark to the aid on the villis and men of the honour of Lancaster in 1176-7.⁷⁵

From surveys of 1212 and 1226 it appears that at that time, and probably for a century before, *FLIXTON* was held in moieties, one half belonging to the demesne of the Crown, the other to the barony of Manchester.⁷⁶ The former or Salford moiety was granted with Ordsall to David de Hulton,⁷⁷ and passed to two branches of the Radcliffe family—of Ordsall and of Smithills,⁷⁸ descending with these estates till the

minister of the parish and the churchwarden for Urmston. In 1870 a portion was sold to the railway company in consideration of a rent-charge of £1 15s., and the remainder produces £4 a year. A monthly distribution of bread is made at the church; attendance at the service is not required, but the recipients are supposed to be members of the Established Church. The balance is distributed at Christmas. A later bequest for the same purpose had been lost before 1826. David Higginson in 1854 left £250 in augmentation of this charity; only about £40 was realized, which was paid in 1890 to the minister and churchwardens of Urmston, but nothing had been done with it up to 1899, as it was thought that no further distribution of bread was required.

Richard Newton in 1800 left £100 towards the education of ten poor children of Urmston; the capital is now represented by £107 consols, and the income, £2 18s. 8d., is paid to the Urmston National School. Some other bequests for education have been lost. A charge of 20s. for this purpose, recognized by the owner of Newcroft in 1826, was repudiated after the sale of the Shawtown school in 1861.

Two other charges on the Newcroft Estate—2s. 6d. for a sermon and 2s. 6d. for ringing the bells on 5 Nov.—have also ceased to be recognized.

⁶⁰ 1,458, including 44 of inland water; *Census Rep.* 1901. The changes of boundary made in 1896 resulted in a loss to the township.

⁶¹ *Population Ret.*

⁶² Old Carrington Bridge, pulled down about 1840, was a foot bridge, and carts had to cross by the ford. Another ford—

the Stone ford—was opposite Flixton Church, and others by Shaw Hall and Hillam Farm; Langton, *Flixton*, 111.

⁶³ The station is known as 'the best laid out on the C.L.C. system'; R. Lawson, *Flixton*, 135.

⁶⁴ In 1896 by Local Govt. Bd. Order 34989.

⁶⁵ Lawson, op. cit. 87-92.

⁶⁶ Ibid. 114, quoting obituary notice in *Meth. Mag.* 1826; *Local Gleanings Lancs. and Ches.* i, 235. Robert Costerdine, 1726-1812, was another; *Preston Guardian*, quoting *Meth. Mag.* 1814.

⁶⁷ Lawson, op. cit. 58; Langton, *Flixton*, 91.

⁶⁸ *Local Gleanings Lancs. and Ches.* ii, 3; see also Langton, *Flixton*, 104-5, for a full list.

⁶⁹ *Arch. Journ.* vii, 389.

⁷¹ Langton, op. cit. 99; the scold's bridle was also in use.

⁷² For list of landowners and tenants in 1818 see *ibid.* 142, &c.

⁷³ Lawson, op. cit. 96.

⁷⁴ Ibid. 83; Langton, op. cit. 95, &c.

⁷⁵ Farrer, *Lancs. Pipe R.* 34. This no doubt refers to the Salford moiety. See also 151, 202.

⁷⁶ *Lancs. Inq. and Extents* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), i, 57, 138.

⁷⁷ Gregson, *Fragments* (ed. Harland), 347. The old farm of this moiety of Flixton had been raised by 2s. 6d. about 1199, *Lancs. Pipe R.* 131, 148. In 1226 it produced 10s.; the Hultons held it with Ordsall as the sixth part of a knight's fee; *Inq. and Extents*, i, 138, 312. Agnes widow of David de Hulton in 1292 had dower in Flixton; *Assize R.* 408, m. 92 d. Some Hulton disputes are noted below in the account of the Valentine family. In

1335 Richard de Hulton of Ordsall granted a piece of waste in Flixton to Thomas son of Adam de Hulme; De Trafford D. no. 295, endorsed 'Hulme demesne.'

The tenure is stated variously at different times. In 1346 John de Radcliffe held a moiety of Flixton in socage, paying a rent of 20s., and double rent as relief; *Add. MS.* 32103, fol. 146b. Richard son of John de Radcliffe in 1369 claimed the moiety of the manor of Flixton (except 20 acres and the moiety of the mill) against Ralph son of William de Radcliffe, under a grant of Richard de Hulton of Ordsall to John son of Richard de Radcliffe; De Banco R. 435, m. 63.

⁷⁸ Richard de Radcliffe, who died in 1380, held three parts of the moiety of Flixton by knight's service and a rent of 10s.; it contained six messuages and 80 acres of arable land, worth 1s. an acre yearly; *Lancs. Inq. p.m.* (Chet. Soc.), i, 8.

Sibyl widow of Richard, afterwards wife of Sir Roger de Fulthorp, held as dower ten messuages, 100 acres of land, &c., in Flixton, by knight's service and the rent of 17s. 6d.; *Chan. Inq. p.m.* 16 Ric. II, no. 15; also *Dep. Keeper's Rep.* xl, App. 528. (Sibyl's husband is called Ralph de Radcliffe in *Fine R.* 192, m. 11.)

Sir John de Radcliffe died in 1422 holding a moiety of Flixton of the king as duke by the service of 10s.; *Lancs. Inq.* (ut sup.), i, 148. A settlement of the Ordsall moiety of Flixton was made in 1431 by Sir John de Radcliffe and Joan his wife, upon his son Alexander and Agnes his wife; *Final Conc.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), iii, 96. John Radcliffe in 1442 held the moiety of the manor of Flixton of the king as duke in socage, by a rent of 10s.; its clear value:

17th century, when the Radcliffe of Ordsall moiety was sold to the Asshaws of Shaw⁷⁹ and the Radcliffe of Smithills moiety, which had in the meantime descended to the Bartons and their heirs, was sold to a number of proprietors.⁸⁰ In 1779 a total rent of 20s. was paid to the duchy by — Greatrix (13s. 9d.) and a number of others.⁸¹

The Manchester moiety, which included the church, was granted as one plough-land by Albert Grelley senior to Henry son of Siward, to be held by the yearly service of 10s.⁸² It did not, however, descend like Lathom, having become parted among younger branches of the family, so that about 1200 Roger son of Henry and Henry son of Bernard were in possession 'by hereditary right.'⁸³ The descent is obscure, but the whole seems to have been acquired by the Hulton family,⁸⁴ who held the other moiety. After the partition

of their estates about 1330 one half, called *SHAW*, was held by the Hultons of Farnworth, and of them by the Valentines,⁸⁵ while the other half was divided between the two Radcliffe families, like the Salford moiety, and was in like manner disposed of in the 17th century.⁸⁶

Thus about 1500 the manor of Flixton was held in a number of fractions, viz., the Salford moiety by Radcliffe of Ordsall and Radcliffe (or Barton) of Smithills; and the Manchester moiety as to two-fourths by the same families, and as to the other half by Valentine, of Hulton of Farnworth as mesne tenant.⁸⁷

The Valentine family appear early in the 13th century.⁸⁸ In 1292 William Valentine secured from Richard de Urmston and Siegrith his wife the third part of two messuages and two oxgangs in Flixton;⁸⁹

was 100s.; Towneley MS. DD, no. 1480. William Radcliffe held it in like manner in 1498; *Lancs. Inq.* (ut sup.), ii, 124. Sir Alexander Radcliffe in 1549 held it by knight's service and a rent of 10s.; his son, Sir William, in 1568, held it by the sixth part of a fee and 10s.; and this is the statement in later inquisitions; Duchy of Lanc. Inq. p.m. ix, 26; xiii, 33; xv, 45; xvii, 35. From the above it would seem that the Ordsall family's holding was at some time divided, half being given to the Smithills family, the rent payable being reduced from 20s. to 10s.

William son of William de Radcliffe was plaintiff in 1368 respecting the moiety of Flixton and lands in Blackburn; De Banco R. 431, m. 408 d. Sir Ralph de Radcliffe claimed a moiety of Flixton in 1401; *Dep. Keeper's Rep.* xl, App. 530. Ralph Radcliffe of Smithills, who died in 1485, held lands in Flixton of the king by knight's service; Duchy of Lanc. Inq. p.m. iii, 97. On the other hand the tenement of his heir, John Barton, in Flixton was in 1517 said to be held of the lord of Manchester; *ibid.* iv, no. 82. The later Barton inquisitions state that the moiety of the manor of Flixton was held of the Duchy by the sixth part of a knight's fee and the rent of 10s., the same as for the Ordsall part; *ibid.* ix, no. 27, &c. Among the Duchy rents paid to Queen Elizabeth occurs 'Richard Barton for half of Flixton, 10s.'; Baines, *Lancs.* (ed. Croston), i, 447. A similar finding was recorded in 1612 after the death of John Barton; *Lancs. Inq. p.m.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), i, 211.

See also *Lancs. and Ches. Recs.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), ii, 323, 325, 327.

⁷⁹ In 1608 Leonard Asshaw purchased from Sir John Radcliffe the manor of Flixton, with messuages, dovecote, lands, &c., in Flixton and Shaw, and free fishings in the Mersey and Irwell; Pal. of Lanc. Feet of F. bdle. 71, no. 26. From the inquisition quoted later it would seem that this included only the Manchester manor, but nothing further is known of the Ordsall holding.

⁸⁰ In an account of Flixton by Dr. Leech (*Lancs. and Ches. Antiq. Soc.* iv, 187) it is stated that the Bartons' estate 'seems to have been settled on Henry Bellasys and his wife Grace [Barton], but the greater part was sold off before the death of Thomas Barton [her father]. One of the deeds in the possession of Mr. Royle of Flixton . . . sets forth that in consideration of £240 Thomas, Lord Fauconbridge, Sir Thomas Barton, Henry Bellasys, and Grace his wife conveyed to John

Hyde of Urmston certain lands in Flixton in the occupation of tenants named Platt, Wright, and Harper. This sale took place in 1628; and a second deed shows that in the following year a portion of land was conveyed by John Hyde to one John Harper, a shoemaker.' A further sale took place in 1631, the purchaser being Thomas Walkden; *Loc. Gleanings Lancs. and Ches.* ii, 45. The manor of Flixton was included in Barton settlements of 1615 and 1627, but does not occur later; Pal. of Lanc. Feet of F. bdles. 88, no. 34; 111, no. 24.

⁸¹ Duchy of Lanc. Rentals, bdle. 14, no. 25 m.

⁸² *Inq. and Extents*, i, 57. Albert Grelley died about 1162. The 'heir' of Henry son of Siward, who held in 1212, is not named, but the manor seems to have been given to the Parbold branch of the Lathom family.

⁸³ *Lancs. Pipe R.* 353, 355. These deeds concern the church, but the manor no doubt descended in the same way.

In 1212 William de Flixton was defendant against Henry son of Bernard in a plea of land, but there was no trial as Henry did not appear; Curia Regis R. 56, m. 15.

⁸⁴ It must have been this moiety which was in 1255 held by Jordan de Hulton, when he assigned dower in seven oxgangs and 15 acres of land in Flixton to Amiria, widow of Robert de Hulton; *Final Conc.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), i, 150. Richard son of David de Hulton in 1292 successfully defended his title to the manor of Flixton—probably the Manchester moiety—against Henry Whythoud of Coppull, Almarica his wife, William de Anderton, Almarica his wife, and others; Assize R. 408, m. 48 d.

A rent from Flixton is named in the inquisition after the death of William Hulton of Farnworth in 1557; Duchy of Lanc. Inq. p.m., x, no. 32.

⁸⁵ See the account of the Valentines later; the mesne lordship of the Hultons of Farnworth was often ignored. In 1320 Richard de Hulton and Richard Valentine held a moiety of Flixton in serjeanty, rendering 18d. for sake fee and puture of the serjeants; and Richard de Hulton [? alone] rendered 10s. and puture for a moiety of Flixton; *Mamecestre* (Chet. Soc.), ii, 289. The word 'moiety' may refer to the whole of the Manchester part of Flixton, or to two parts of it held by different services. The total rent was 11s. 6d. The sake fee for the moiety of Flixton occurs about 1300; *Inq. and Extents*, i, 301.

⁸⁶ In the above cited inquisition after the death of Sir Richard de Radcliffe in 1380 he was found to have held a fourth part of a moiety of Flixton of John La Warre, lord of Manchester, by knight's service and the rent of 20d. a year; in this part, as in the other part he held, there were six messuages and 80 acres of arable land, each worth 1s. a year. It is mentioned once again as 'a messuage in Flixton,' in 1569, after the death of Sir William Radcliffe; it was held of Lord La Warre in socage by a rent of 20d.; Duchy of Lanc. Inq. p.m. xiii, no. 33.

Ralph Barton of Smithills was in 1593 recorded to have paid 20d. to the lord of Manchester for a 'moiety' of Flixton; *Manch. Ct. Leet Rec.* ii, 69.

⁸⁷ The Manchester moiety was thus described in 1473: Thomas Valentine, half, by a rent of 8s. 2d. and puture; Ralph Radcliffe, a quarter, by 20d., and Alexander Radcliffe of Ordsall, a quarter, by 20d.; in all, 11s. 6d., the same total as that in 1320 above recorded; *Mamecestre*, iii, 479. The division as thus described has been followed in the text, but as the rent for one oxgang was 15d. it would appear that the Radcliffes had one oxgang each and Valentine six, i.e. perhaps the original moiety together with two oxgangs acquired in 1292. The sake fee seems to have been divided thus: 5d., 5d., and 8d.

⁸⁸ William le Valentine attested a Barton deed in 1222; De Trafford D. no. 250. In 1261 William Valentine of Flixton, in a suit against Jordan de Hulton in a plea of land, made William his son his attorney; Curia Regis R. 171, m. 84 d. Somewhat later William son of Valentine de Flixton attested another Barton deed; De Trafford D. no. 206.

In 1278 Richard de Urmston convicted Jordan de Hulton and William son of William son of Valentine de Flixton of levying a ditch in Urmston to the hurt of his free tenement, the passage of his cattle being impeded; Assize R. 1238, m. 33. The defence was that it was in Flixton. Six years later in another suit in which the same plaintiffs and defendants occur Richard the brother of William Valentine was among the latter; Assize R. 1265, m. 5 d.

⁸⁹ *Final Conc.* i, 174. Richard and Siegrith also in 1292 recovered two parts of two messuages and two oxgangs against Richard de Hulton and Thomas the Provost; Assize R. 408, m. 30 d. In the preceding year there had been suits between William Valentine on the one side and Richard de Urmston and Siegrith his wife,

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and in 1308 Richard Valentine obtained from William Valentine an acknowledgement of his title to certain messuages and lands in Flixton, which William was to hold for life.⁹⁰ Richard Valentine was a tenant in 1320,⁹¹ and Richard and Robert his son were among the defendant landholders of Flixton in 1338.⁹²

Richard de Langley and Joan his wife at Pentecost 1352 claimed the wardship of John son and heir of Robert Valentine, against Thomas del Booth and John son of Robert de Worsley, on the ground that Robert had held a messuage and 80 acres in Flixton of Joan La Warre in socage, and Joan the plaintiff was next of kin to the heir on his mother's side, 'to whom the inheritance could not descend.' The heir had already been married to a Worsley, and the plaintiffs' claim being upheld damages were awarded to them.⁹³ If this refers to the main line of the family the heir must have died shortly afterwards, for in 1355 William son of John de Hulton successfully claimed the rent due from John son of Richard Valentine and heir of his 'ancestor' Robert Valentine, for lands in Flixton held of the plaintiff, who in turn held of the lord of Manchester in socage by a rent of 8s. a year. Plaintiff and defendant were both minors and had been taken into ward by the Lady La Warre, on the allegation that they held by knight's service, and the wardship of John Valentine had been granted by her to William son of Robert de Worsley.⁹⁴

John Valentine died in 1395-6 holding land called the Shaw in Flixton, and leaving as heir his grandson John son of Richard Valentine, fourteen years of age.⁹⁵

Nearly eighty years later Thomas Valentine held a moiety of the Manchester part of Flixton of Lord La Warre in socage by a rent of 8s. 2d., giving puture of one serjeant and doing suit to the court of Manchester.⁹⁶

In 1476 John son and heir apparent of Thomas Valentine, on his marriage with Joan, apparently a daughter of William Holland of Clifton, made a settlement of the estate in Flixton granted him by his father.⁹⁷ Joan the daughter and eventual heiress of John Valentine is stated to have married Lawrence Asshaw of Shaw; she had no children by him, but made him a grant of her lands, which he in turn bequeathed to his nephew Leonard, a younger son of Roger Asshaw or Ashall of Hall on the Hill in Charnock.⁹⁸

The younger Leonard died on 31 December 1594 holding the manors of Astley and Shaw, and various lands in Flixton, Tyldesley, Worsley, Hulton, Barton,



ASSHAW. *Argent on a cheveron between three marilets vert as many crosses formy fitchy of the field.*

and Richard de Hulton and others; Assize R. 1294, m. 8.

In 1290 Richard de Urmston and Siegrith his wife had claimed a third of two oxgangs against William son of William de Flixton—no doubt Valentine; Coram Rege R. 122, m. 9.

Richard son of David de Hulton in 1292 was non-suited in a claim respecting a tenement in Flixton against William Valentine, William Valentine, and Richard son of William Valentine; Assize R. 408, m. 32 d., 21. On the other hand William Valentine also was non-suited in a claim against Richard de Hulton and Thomas de Urmston for throwing down a dyke in Flixton, &c.; *ibid.* m. 32 d.

A fine in 1303 between Richard de Hulton and William Pyke of Flixton and Alice his wife may refer to the Valentine holding; *Final Conc.* i, 202.

⁹⁰ *Final Conc.* ii, 1. Richard Valentine, clerk, attested an Irlam deed of about 1310; De Trafford D. no. 263. Later (in 1351) there is mention of a Joan wife of John son of Robert de Worsley, who was sister and heir of a Richard Valentine, who had had lands in Urmston; Duchy of Lanc. Assize R. 1, m. 1.

⁹¹ *Mamecestre*, ii, 289. Richard le Valentine contributed to the subsidy of 1332; *Exch. Lay Subs.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), 38.

⁹² Hugh de Walkden claimed and recovered a rent of 20s. and robe with hood (worth 20s.) granted him by Richard de Hulton the elder out of his lands in Flixton. The defendants included the said Richard and Maud his wife, also Robert de Legh, Richard de Hulton the younger and Margaret his wife, John de Radcliffe the elder (holding half the mill), and Richard de Radcliffe (holding the other half); Assize R. 1425, m. 3, 3 d.

Six years later Adam de Hulton made a similar claim against John son of Richard de Radcliffe, holding a moiety of the manor, Richard the son of John, William

son of Robert de Radcliffe, Robert Valentine and Agnes his wife, John son of Henry de Hulton and Alice his wife, and many others; Assize R. 1435, m. 34 d.; also m. 39.

The above-named Maud wife of Richard de Hulton afterwards married Robert de Legh, and made a number of claims in 1351 and later against the Radcliffes respecting the moiety of the manor and the mill of Flixton; Duchy of Lanc. Assize R. 1, m. 5 d.; R. 2, m. 1; R. 4, m. 6 d., m. 29. John de Radcliffe, as holding the estate of Robert son of Roger de Radcliffe, defended by producing a quitclaim by the Leghs to the said Robert; *ibid.* R. 5, m. 25 d.; see also *Dep. Keeper's Rep.* xxxii, App. 332, 336, 338.

The rent of a robe, or 20s., was claimed again in 1360 by Thomas son of Henry de Trafford; Duchy of Lanc. Assize R. 8, m. 13. He had in 1334 claimed 20 marks rent from Richard de Hulton; Coram Rege R. 297, m. 115 d.

⁹³ Duchy of Lanc. Assize R. 2, m. 5 d. Joan was daughter of Jordan [de Tetlow], brother of Agnes wife of Robert Valentine the father. A 'de' is here and in some other cases inserted before Valentine; usually 'le' is inserted.

⁹⁴ *Ibid.* R. 4, m. 13. William de Worsley stated that the service due was 24s. a year, but William de Hulton corrected this. Damages of 60s. were granted and a fine of 10s. imposed.

⁹⁵ *Lancs. Inq. p.m.* (Chet. Soc.), i, 69; the tenure is not stated. John Valentine attested an Urmston deed in 1445; Harl. MS. 2112, fol. 160.

⁹⁶ *Mamecestre*, ut supra.

⁹⁷ Vawdrey D. One field was named the Broadhey.

Another Vawdrey deed is the decision of the arbitrator in 1508 regarding close within the demesne of the Shaw, in consequence of disputes between Joan widow of Gilbert Langtree and Katherine widow of John Valentine.

From deeds cited in the account of Bentcliffe in Eccles it appears probable that Joan Langtree was the widow of the John Valentine of the text, and Katherine the widow of his elder son John. The other son Thomas left two illegitimate children, one of whom was the ancestor of the Valentines of Bentcliffe, so that on Thomas's death about 1550 the Shaw estate went to his sister or her heirs.

There is a legend of a 'Sir Ralph Valentine' who in setting out for Bosworth field vowed that he would return alive or dead. He was slain, and his wife on receiving his body at Flixton fell down dead; R. Lawson, *op. cit.* 52.

⁹⁸ Piccope's *Wills* (Chet. Soc.), i, 81 n, quoting Harl. MS. 1987, fol. 2, 5. The will of Lawrence Asshaw 'of the Shaw,' here printed, dated 4 July 1558, directed that he should be buried at Flixton, and that 20 marks should be spent on bells for the church, and in making a parclose within it, requiring the parish priest and parishioners there to pray for the souls of himself and others; and that other sums should be given to the poor of the neighbourhood and expended on the paving of the highway between the tithe barn and the church. There are numerous bequests, but nothing is said as to the descent of the manor. Settlements of his estates had, however, been made in 1521 (when Joan his wife was joined with him) and in 1554; Pal. of Lanc. Feet of F. bde. 11, m. 197; bde. 15, m. 82.

Lawrence Asshaw had before his death to defend his title to lands in Flixton; *Ducatus Lanc.* (Rec. Com.), i, 279.

The feoffees complained that Thomas Asshaw, nephew of Lawrence, and others came to the Shaw just before Lawrence's death and took away a number of deeds, and afterwards Thomas obtained possession of the house and demesne lands. One of the defendants alleged that he took the deeds at the desire of Joan wife of Lawrence; Duchy of Lanc. Pleadings, xxxvi, M. 4.

&c. In 1587 he had settled the manor of Shaw and various lands upon his second son, Lawrence, who, however, died without issue two years later, and then a fresh settlement was made in 1591 in favour of the third son, Leonard, and his heirs male.⁹⁹ The eldest son, Edward, was still living, thirty-four years of age, in April 1595. Shaw and the lands in Flixton were stated to be held of George Hulton by fealty and a rent of 16s.¹⁰⁰

Leonard, who thus inherited Shaw, died there 12 April 1633, holding the manors of Shaw and Flixton, with views of frankpledge, the former of Thomas Hulton of Farnworth in socage, and the latter of Edward Mosley, as of his manor of Manchester, also in socage by a rent of 18d. Elizabeth, his daughter and heir, thirty years of age, was the wife of Peter, son of Sir Ralph Egerton of Ridley in Cheshire.¹⁰¹

Peter Egerton, who thus became lord of Shaw and Flixton in right of his wife, was one of the most prominent men in the county during the Civil War period. He was sheriff in 1641.¹⁰² On the outbreak of the war he embraced the side of the Parliament, taking part in the defence of Manchester in 1642¹⁰³ and the sieges of

Lathom House; as General Egerton he received the surrender of this place in December 1645.¹⁰⁴ He died in 1656 by the accidental administration of poison.¹⁰⁵

He was succeeded by his son Leonard and grandson Peter.¹⁰⁶ The family appear to have become impoverished, and their lands were gradually sold in the latter part of the 17th century. Peter Egerton died in 1712, and his son John sold the Shaw Hall estate in 1722 to William Latus.¹⁰⁷ On the new owner's death in 1764 it was advertised for sale.¹⁰⁸ It passed



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⁹⁹ Leonard Asshaw matriculated at Oxford (Brasenose College) in 1584, being fifteen years of age; B.A. 1588; Foster, *Alumni*.

¹⁰⁰ Duchy of Lanc. Inq. p.m. xvi, no. 11; see also *Manch. Court Leet Rec.* ii, 91, 121. In the settlement of 1587 Edward the son and heir was associated with his father; Pal. of Lanc. Feet of F. bdle. 49, m. 4. He was buried at Flixton 4 May 1611.

The Asshaw estates also came to this family on the death of Lawrence's elder brother Thomas.

¹⁰¹ Duchy of Lanc. Inq. p.m. xxviii, no. 39. As stated above he had purchased the Radcliffe manor of Flixton in 1608, but the tenure stated in the inquisition is that for the quarter of Flixton held of the lord of Manchester, the rent being 18d. instead of 20d. as in 1473. The inquisition recites a fine, Lent, 8 Jas. I. Jane the widow was living at Shaw. Peter Egerton and Elizabeth Asshaw were married at Flixton 28 April 1610.

A pedigree was recorded in 1613; *Visit.* (Chet. Soc.), 6. Leonard Asshaw in 1631 paid £25 fine on refusing knighthood; *Misc.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), i, 215. His funeral certificate is printed in the Record Society's volume, p. 198.

¹⁰² P.R.O. *List*, 73.

¹⁰³ *Civil War Tracts* (Chet. Soc.), 45, 52, 333. Soon afterwards the Parliament appointed him a magistrate; *ibid.* 60. In the following year he was placed on the committee for sequestering 'delinquents' estates'; *ibid.* 90; and in 1645 on the military committee; *ibid.* 210.

¹⁰⁴ *Ibid.* 167, 212; also *Lancs. War* (Chet. Soc.), 62.

¹⁰⁵ He was buried at Flixton 22 May 1656. Henry Newcome states that he 'used to take flour of brimstone for some distemper he had; and he sent the maid into the closet, and she mingled it with milk and he drank it, and it proved mercury; and by this woeful mistake he was poisoned and died within a few hours'; *Autobiog.* (Chet. Soc.), i, 79.

¹⁰⁶ A settlement was made in 1662 of the manors of Shaw and Flixton, with views of frankpledge, free fishery, &c., by Leonard Egerton, Mary his wife, and Peter son and heir apparent; Pal. of Lanc. Feet of F. bdle. 168, m. 100. A deed of sale to John Lowe in the same year is printed in *Local Glean. Lancs. and Ches.* i, 276.

A pedigree was recorded in 1664; Dugdale, *Visit.* (Chet. Soc.), 102. Leonard's age is given as forty-seven, Peter's as twenty-two; and that of Peter's daughter Mary as one year.

Leonard Egerton was buried at Flixton 15 Jan. 1679-80; and Mary his widow 2 April 1681. Peter Egerton was buried 26 Mar. 1699. Soon afterwards, 3 Aug. 1699, an annuity of £25 a year was charged on Shaw Hall in favour of Mary Egerton, widow, by her son Peter Egerton and Anne his wife; *Local Glean. Lancs. and Ches.* ii, 3.

¹⁰⁷ These particulars are from Dr. Leech's paper already quoted, 191; he states that the last Peter Egerton was one of the leading florists of the county.

Peter Egerton was sheriff in 1703; P.R.O. *List*, 74.

In 1707 Peter Egerton and Anne his wife made a settlement of the manor of

Shaw, and a messuage and lands in Shaw and Flixton; Pal. of Lanc. Feet of F. bdle. 258, m. 37.

For the fine accompanying the sale to William Latus the deforciantes were John Egerton, Anne Egerton, widow, Henry Leigh, and Thomas Ashton; and the estate is described as the manor of Shaw, seven messuages, dovecote, 40 acres of land, &c., free warren in Shawtown, Flixton, and Urmston, and free fishery in the Mersey and Irwell; Pal. of Lanc. Feet of F. bdle. 289, m. 105. There is a further deed in Piccotte MSS. (Chet. Lib.), iii, 216 (from Roll 7, Geo. I at Preston), reciting a mortgage in 1707 and the sale in 1722.

In 1748 the manor of Shaw, with the free fishery, was held by Peter Leigh and Elizabeth his wife; Pal. of Lanc. Plea R. 569, m. 9; and they conveyed a moiety to John Girardot of Chaucour, esquire, together with a moiety of the prebend or parsonage of Flixton and the tithes and oblations belonging thereto; Pal. of Lanc. Feet of F. bdle. 351, m. 138, 175.

Peter Leigh, of the West Hall, High Legh family, married a daughter of William Latus of Manchester. He was chief justice of South Carolina, and his son Egerton Leigh was made a baronet in 1773; Ormerod, *Ches.* (ed. Helsby), i, 456.

Some of the Egertons continued to live at Shaw, for in 1757 widow Egerton of Shaw Hall married Humphrey Owen, the curate of Flixton.

¹⁰⁸ The advertisement from the *Manchester Mercury* is printed in R. Lawson's *Flixton*, 53; it mentions the capital messuage of Shaw, with the demesne lands,

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through various hands, and was in December 1845 purchased by Colonel George John Miller Ridehalgh of Fell Foot near Ulverston, and on the death of his widow became the property of Mr. George Ridehalgh.¹⁰⁹

Shaw Hall lies to the east of the parish church about a quarter of a mile north of the River Mersey, and is said to have been built in the reign of James I. The house, however, has been almost entirely modernized, and on the outside no ancient features remain. It is a two-story gabled building the walls of which are now covered with modern rough-cast (except at the back, or west side, where they are of brick), and the roofs with blue slates, and the general appearance is uninteresting. The gables, of which the building possesses no less than fifteen, are rough-cast like the walls, and have either modern barge boards or copings, and all the windows are late insertions. A cupola, formerly containing a bell, which was originally a feature of the building on the outside, has disappeared.

The house is now divided into two separate dwellings, and contains some of its original fittings, though the plan has been a good deal altered. There is some good oak panelling in two of the lower rooms of the south house, but it has been patched with pitchpine, and painted and varnished. A lower room in the north house is also panelled in oak, similarly patched, but painted white. The hall is now divided, but there is an interesting staircase in the south house the balusters of which take the form of Tuscan, Ionic, and Corinthian columns, repeating in threes, with a thicker Corinthian column as newel. The handrail is modern. The other house has a good Jacobean staircase with twisted balusters, square newels, and original wide handrail.

The chief interest now attaching to the interior of Shaw Hall, however, lies in two pieces of tapestry in one of the upper rooms representing scenes from the life of Alexander, and a painting on the cove of the hall ceiling representing the wife of Darius kneeling before Alexander, together with a smaller allegorical circular painting on the ceiling of what is now the entrance porch to the north house. The paintings and tapestry are part of the original furniture of the house, and are said to be coeval with the building.

There was formerly a good deal of 17th-century heraldic glass in the windows, but most of this was taken out when the present sashes were inserted. It is still preserved, however, in the house, and though much broken and mutilated could easily be put together again and replaced.

Some fragments are still in position in the staircase window in the south house, the two upper lights of

which contain two shields, one bearing the royal arms of the Stuart sovereigns, encircled by a garter, and the other being a quartered shield of the arms of Trafford with the crest of a man and flail. In the lower lights is a quarry with floral ornamentation and the words 'Asshawe de Shawe,' and another with a shield of Asshawe with five quarterings. The house is said formerly to have had a moat, but this had partially disappeared in 1847¹¹⁰ and is now planted over.

There is a stained-glass window in the church commemorating Arthur William Whitnal, 'lord of the manor of Flixton,' who died in 1890.

No courts have been held for a long period. As in other townships within the barony the constable of Flixton was in the 17th and 18th centuries summoned to attend the Court Leet at Manchester, but no attention was paid to the summons.¹¹¹

The Booths of Barton also held land in Flixton.¹¹² The surname Flixton occurs, but was not used by a local family.¹¹³

Flixton House was formerly the residence of Ralph Wright, who died in 1831.¹¹⁴ His estate, partly inherited and partly purchased, he endeavoured to make more compact and secluded by the closing and diverting of footpaths. This roused great opposition in the neighbourhood, and after several years of expensive litigation the attempt was defeated.¹¹⁵

The land tax return of 1787 shows that the land was then much divided; the largest contributor was William Allen, who paid about a sixteenth.¹¹⁶

The Wesleyan Methodists have a chapel at Flixton.

URMSTON

Wermeston, 1194; Urmeston, 1212; Urmestone, 1302.

This township, measuring about a mile from north to south and a mile and a half across, has an area of 993 acres.¹ The land slopes gently from north to south, where the Mersey forms the boundary. The village lies in the centre of the township. The population in 1901 numbered 6,594.²

From the village a road leads east to Stretford and Manchester; to the west two roads diverge, one to Irlam, the other to the village of Flixton. The Cheshire Lines Railway from Manchester to Liverpool crosses the township, with a station at Urmston, opened in 1873.

'Tim Bobbin,' the Lancashire dialect writer, whose true name was John Collier, is said to have been born here, but is more closely associated with Milnrow in Rochdale.³

also messuages, chief rents, tithes, &c., in Flixton; the yearly value was £500, subject to a deduction of £48 2s. out of the tithes.

In 1768 the manor of Shaw, with messuages, malthouse, dovescotes, lands, and appurtenances was sold by Lucy Latus, spinster, to John Salmon; Pal. of Lanc. Feet of F. bdle. 380, m. 47.

¹⁰⁹ Information of Messrs. Taylor, Kirkman & Co., Manchester, solicitors of Mr. Ridehalgh. It was in 1836 the property of Miss Warburton; Baines, *Lancs.* (1st ed.). See also R. Lawson, loc. cit.

¹¹⁰ Raines, notes to Gastrell's *Notitia*.

¹¹¹ *Manch. Cr. Leet Rec.* iv, 148, &c. The latest instance is in 1733 (vii, 25).

¹¹² The tenure is not stated; see the inquisitions of John Booth of Barton, Katherine Booth, and John Molyneux; Duchy of Lanc. Inq. p.m. xii, 8; xiv, 13; xvii, 24. Margery Barton in 1581 claimed lands in Flixton against Ralph Barton and others; *Ducatus Lanc.* (Rec. Com.), iii, 91, 107.

Jane widow of Richard Eltorhead claimed dower in Shaw, Hulton, and Tyldesley in 1591; *ibid.* iii, 500.

¹¹³ Agnes widow of German de Flixton was a plaintiff in 1246; *Assize R.* 404, m. 7. The Valentines seem occasionally

to have been known as 'de Flixton,' but this use did not continue.

¹¹⁴ The mural tablet in the church states that his life was one of 'unwearied exertion and usefulness and devoted attachment to his church, his king, and his country.' The Wright mausoleum is the most conspicuous object in the churchyard. See also Langton, *Flixton*, 20, for this family.

¹¹⁵ A. Prentice, *Recollections of Manch.* 290-3; the cases lasted from 1824 to 1827.

¹¹⁶ Returns at Preston.

¹ 992, including 10 of inland water; *Census Rep.* 1901.

² *Pop. Rev.*

³ *Dict. Nat. Biog.*

Urmston is governed by an Urban District Council formed in 1894; there are twelve members.⁴

The cemetery was formed in 1892. The Manchester Jews have three separate cemeteries—for the Spanish and Portuguese synagogue, the New synagogue, and the Polish Jews.

The field-names⁵ include Hillam, Barrowfield, Blake-well Meadow, Twinose, Treeley, Rant, and Woefield.⁶

The manor of URMSTON was originally part of the Marsey fee, and held of the lord as one plough-land by a family using the local surname. It was held by the eighth part of a knight's fee, rents of 8s. and 2s. being paid for castle ward and sake fee.⁷ The earliest known holder of it is Richard de Urmston, who in 1193-4 gave 40s. for having the king's good will after the rebellion of John Count of Mortain.⁸ Adam de Urmston held it in 1212.⁹ After this there is a period of uncertainty. The superior lordship was acquired by the Trafford family,¹⁰

who continued to hold it, at least nominally, down to the 16th century, though their mesne tenancy is often ignored.¹¹ The Urmston family and the lordship also appear to have been divided,¹² one branch settling in Westleigh.¹³ In 1305 Adam de Urmston conferred all his lands in Urmston, together with the lordship of the whole town, upon Gilbert de Ashton.¹⁴ The latter had several daughters, and Urmston became the portion of Hawise wife of Henry son of John de Trafford. Her heir was again a daughter, Aline, who married Ralph son of John de Hyde of Hyde in Cheshire.¹⁵ In this family and its descendants the manor continued till the 18th century.

From a suit of 1317, in which Isabel widow of Adam de Urmston claimed dower, it appears that the land was then divided thus: Gilbert de Ashton held 3 oxgangs; Richard, son of Adam de Urmston, 3; and William son of William the Serjeant, 1; leaving an oxgang not accounted for.¹⁶ The manor, however,

⁴ Loc. Govt. Bd. Order.

⁵ A list is given in R. Lawson, *Flixton*, 122.

⁶ The following occur in a deed of 1300: Woodfalls, Whiteriffos, Welcome Ridding, Merulache, Stille, Omerland, Simond Ridding, Hillum Carr, Merebutts.

⁷ *Lancs. Inq. and Extents* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), i, 71.

⁸ Farrer, *Lancs. Pipe R.* 77.

⁹ *Lancs. Inq. and Extents*, loc. cit.

¹⁰ Jordan de Worsley granted to Geoffrey son of Henry de Trafford all the lands which he had had by the gift of Adam de Urmston, and the reversion of the dower of Adam's widow, Isabel; De Trafford D. no. 292. In 1305 Jordan had, as creditor for £10, claimed the manor of Urmston against Adam de Urmston, Isabel his wife, Gilbert de Ashton, his children, and others, except four messuages, 4 oxgangs and 60 acres of land, and the moiety of a mill; Assize R. 420, m. 1, 7.

¹¹ Sir Edmund Trafford in 1445-6 held 3 oxgangs of land in Urmston and the heir of Geoffrey de Urmston 5 oxgangs, for the eighth part of a knight's fee, rendering 12s. 6d. yearly. The said Edmund stated that he was mesne between the king, &c., and was in ward; hence there was no relief; Duchy of Lanc. Knights' Fees, 2/20.

Sir Edmund Trafford, who died in 1563, held Urmston of the queen by the eighth part of a knight's fee and 8s. 4d.; Duchy of Lanc. Inq. p.m., xi, 11.

Robert Worsley of the Booths in the time of Henry VIII held lands in Urmston of Edmund Trafford, but the service due was not known; *ibid.* vii, 5.

Sir Robert Lovell in 1600 held lands in Urmston, probably purchases from members of the Trafford family; *ibid.* xviii, 32; see also *Ducatus Lanc.* (Rec. Com.), iii, 421, 465, and the accounts of Chorlton and Didsbury.

Richard Scott in 1547 claimed a messuage, &c., against Sir Edmund Trafford and James Hampson; *ibid.* i, 229.

¹² Richard de Urmston is named in 1265, 1278, 1284, and again in 1288; perhaps there were two of the name; *Lancs. Inq. and Extents*, i, 232, 273; Assize R. 1238, m. 34 d.; 1265, m. 5 d.

Nigel son of Roger son of Adam de Urmston in 1288 demanded the manor against Adam son of Richard de Urmston, claiming as heir; De Banco R. 73, m. 49, 87 d. Thus Richard must have died in that year.

In 1284, however, there was another Adam de Urmston, the son of William and Constance; in reply to a charge of novel disseisin in 'Ormiston,' he said there was no such vill, but the tenements claimed were in 'Urmiston,' and he held them as his father's heir. Thomas de Urmston claimed under a grant from the father; Assize R. 1268, m. 19. In the same year Richard de Urmston claimed eight messuages in Urmston against Adam and Alexander de Hulme, John son of Wymark, and others. Robert Grelley had held them, and his son and heir Thomas being under age, the escheator had taken possession; *ibid.* 1265, m. 22 d.

¹³ See the account of Westleigh; a Richard de Urmston and Siegrith his wife held it and lands in Flixton in 1292; *Final Conc.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.); i, 169, 174; ii, 20, 127. Siegrith, lady of Urmston, also occurs in 1311; Lich. Epis. Reg. i, fol. 114 b.

Adam de Urmston, probably the Adam son of Richard above mentioned, seems to have been the chief man in the township in 1292, when he was involved in several pleas. William son of William de Flixton (probably a Valentine), was nonsuited in a claim against Adam de Urmston and William his brother; Assize R. 408, m. 44 d. The same plaintiff was also nonsuited in a claim against William son of Thomas de Urmston; *ibid.* m. 48 d. Henry son and heir of Henry de Trafford was nonsuited in his demand that Adam de Urmston's mill-pool should be destroyed, having been formed by Adam's father, Richard, to the injury of the Traffords' estate; *ibid.* m. 56 d.; De Banco R. 92, m. 129 d.

¹⁴ In 1301 Adam de Urmston made claims, which he did not prosecute, against Robert de Ashton and others, respecting tenements in Urmston; Assize R. 418, m. 12 d. These Ashtons were of the adjacent township of Ashton on Mersey. In the same year Richard son of Adam de Urmston, and Cecily his wife, made a similar claim against Adam and others; *ibid.* 419, m. 3; 420, m. 7. Richard son of Adam son of Richard de Urmston in 1333 and up to 1342 claimed eighteen messuages, &c., in Urmston, against Henry son of John de Trafford of Urmston; De Banco R. 295, m. 28; 332, m. 100 d.

¹⁵ The story is told fully in a document compiled about 1430, in Harl. MS. 2112,

fol. 158, printed in *Coll. Topog. et Gen.* viii, 146.

Adam de Urmston granted all his lands of Urmston, with the demesne, wards, reliefs, &c., to Gilbert de Ashton, who in return granted the moiety of Ashton on Mersey, and lands in Sale and Altrincham. These being more valuable than Urmston Adam granted a rent of £3 a year from them. After this Adam sold the Ashton lands to John de Leigh and Ellen his wife, who gave them to William Venables and Katherine his wife. [This was in 1307-8; *Dep. Keeper's Rep.* xxvii, App. 94]. William not paying the rent of £3, Gilbert de Ashton made a distraint and proved his right in open court.

Gilbert married Margaret daughter of Roger de Cheadle, and their daughter Hawise was married in childhood to Henry son of John de Trafford of Newcroft, the father giving her the manor of Urmston. Afterwards a divorce took place; Henry married Joan de Worsley, and Hawise married John son and heir of the above-mentioned William Venables, by whom she had a daughter and heir Alice (elsewhere Aline). After the death of Hawise John married Joan, sister of the said Henry de Trafford, and had a daughter Cecily, wife of Robert de Ashton.

Meantime John de Trafford had killed Gilbert de Ashton at Urmston, hiding his body in a 'rindle' and taking the deeds of the manor. Henry de Trafford also arranged with Richard son of Adam de Urmston that the latter should recover the lands and then grant them to him. Thus Aline's inheritance was in great danger. Her father also was against her; he wished her to marry Adam de Trafford, his second wife's brother, and shut her up in the 'city of Brvnuegg,' till she escaped one night and found refuge in Timperley, on which her father, in his anger, burnt the deed securing to her the rent of £3. Next, Hamon Massey of Timperley married her to Ralph de Hyde, who managed to regain the manor of Urmston against Henry de Trafford and Richard de Urmston; after which the stolen deeds were given up to him.

A copy of the grant by Adam de Urmston to Gilbert de Ashton follows.

Some illustrative references will be found in the following notes.

¹⁶ De Banco R. 217, m. 183 d. It is possible that the oxgang not mentioned was Newcroft, the possession of Henry de Trafford. Gilbert de Ashton after—

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appears always to have descended with the Ashton share.

Henry de Trafford was in possession in 1324 in right of his wife.¹⁷ She afterwards married John Venables, of Ashton-on-Mersey, by whom she had the daughter and heir Aline mentioned above. From 1343 onward Ralph de Hyde and Aline his wife were engaged in suits respecting her inheritance.¹⁸ Ralph and Aline were living in 1360, when they and their son William successfully defended their title to half the mill.¹⁹ By 1370 Thomas son of Ralph appears to have succeeded his father,²⁰ and he is no doubt the same Thomas de Hyde who died in 1433, leaving as heir his son George's child Thomas, then fourteen years of age.²¹

The younger Thomas died in 1444, holding the manor of Urmston of Sir Edmund Trafford by knight's service; the clear value was 100s. George the son and heir was about three months old.²² Margaret the widow had certain messuages and lands

assigned to her as dower in 1445.²³ George died in or before 1500, in which year his widow Isabel claimed dower, Thomas Hyde being then in possession.²⁴ In 1517 John the son and heir of Thomas was contracted to marry Elizabeth daughter of Sir John Booth of Barton.²⁵ Thomas died early in 1534, holding the manor of Urmston of Edmund Trafford by knight's service and a rent of 8s. He had made provision for his wife and younger sons, and the heir was his grandson William, son of the above-named John, then about fourteen years of age.²⁶

William Hyde in 1548 arranged for the marriage of his son and heir William with Margaret daughter of John Arderne; she was to have a jointure out of the Urmston lands of £4 clear value.²⁷ He died in 1574, holding the manor of Edmund Trafford by the eighth part of a knight's fee and 8s. rent; the clear annual value was £5. The heir was his said son William, then twenty-nine years of age.²⁸ A pedigree was

wards proffered a charter of Isabel's, but she denied it to be hers; De Banco R. 218, m. 30.

Adam de Urmston in 1300 granted to his son Richard and Cecily his wife, daughter of Thomas de Hulme, 3 oxgangs of land in Urmston, &c.; De Trafford D. no. 294. Richard and Cecily in 1305 accordingly claimed three messuages, 3 oxgangs, 12 acres of land, 1 acre of heath, and the moiety of the mills in Urmston, against Adam de Urmston, Gilbert de Ashton, Robert, Thomas, Richard, and William his sons, Hawise, Margery, Lettice, and Margery his daughters, and Roger Plat. One writ was abstracted, and William son of the rector of Lee sent to gaol. Gilbert pleaded a quitclaim of the same year, but Richard was then a minor; Assize R. 420, m. 7, 5 d.; 423, m. 3 d.

The Serjeant family occurs several times in the pleadings, &c. William the Serjeant in 1346 called John de Radcliffe, rector of Bury, to warrant him in the possession of his estate in Urmston; De Banco R. 345, m. 113 d. Joan daughter of William, in 1352 released to Thomas del Booth her right in her father's lands, &c.; P.R.O. Anct. D., A, 8175. Later, however, she seems to have recovered all or part of them; Duchy of Lanc. Assize R. 3, m. 2.

¹⁷ Duchy of Lanc. Rentals and Surv. 379, m. 13; he paid for ward 8s. and sake fee 2s. In the copy in Dods. MSS. cxxxi, fol. 37b, the sake fee is given as 2s. 6d., making 10s. 6d. in all.

In the same year Robert de Hulme claimed land in Urmston against Henry son of John de Trafford, Hawise his wife, and John de Trafford the elder; Assize R. 425, m. 5 d.

John de Trafford contributed to the subsidy of 1332; *Exch. Lay Subs.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), 41.

Thomas son of Adam de Hulme, in virtue of a grant made to his grandfather Thomas in 1302 by Adam de Urmston, successfully claimed leave to get turves on the moor of Urmston in 1334; Adam de Hulme was brother and heir of Robert, eldest son of Thomas the grandfather. The defendants were Henry son of John de Trafford of Newcroft and Isabel widow of Adam de Urmston, the latter in right of her dower; Coram Rege R. 297, m. 125.

¹⁸ The earliest statement (1343) recites the possession of the manor of Urmston

by Gilbert de Ashton, with remainder to his daughter Hawise and her issue; and by Henry son of John de Trafford of Newcroft, in right of Hawise, after Gilbert's death, and by Henry after the death of Hawise. It alleges that Henry and others in 1340 conspired with Richard son of Adam son of Richard de Urmston, so that the latter might sue Henry for the manor; he did so, and in 1342 recovered it by Henry's wilful default. Henry and Richard defended, but the jury found that Adam alienated the manor in exchange for other tenements, so that his son Richard had never any right in it, and upheld Aline's claim. They assessed the damages as £4 instead of the £2,000 claimed; Assize R. 430, m. 10 d. In the following year Ralph and Aline were nonsuited in a claim for ten messuages, 40 acres of land, &c., against John de Trafford of Newcroft, Joan his wife, and John, Richard, Robert, and Adam his sons; *ibid.* 1435, m. 42.

A further statement of the case was made in 1347, in the king's writ to the justices; herein Geoffrey de Urmston and Roger de Chisnall are named as the partners of Henry de Trafford in the conspiracy; De Banco R. 351, m. 435 d.; 352, m. 227 d.; 356, m. 412 d. In July 1351 Ralph and Aline proceeded against Richard de Urmston, Geoffrey and Adam his brothers and others, but the writ was adjudged bad, having *questus* for *questi*; Duchy of Lanc. Assize R. 1, m. 2. At the same time Amice daughter of Henry son of John de Trafford did not prosecute her claim against Ralph and Aline; a mistake was found in her writ, more tenants being named in it than were shown on the endorsement; *ibid.* m. 4 d, 5. This dispute, however, had not been confined to the courts; for in Aug. 1350, Richard de Urmston, Adam his brothers and others, had with bows, arrows, swords, and shields, taken some of Ralph de Hyde's cattle—a horse worth 40s., four oxen worth 50s., and two cows worth 13s. 4d.—and committed other enormities, treading down his corn to the value of £6 3s. 4d.; whereupon, being convicted, Richard was sent to gaol; Assize R. 431, m. 1 d. In 1351 Richard son of Geoffrey de Urmston released to Ralph de Hyde all his right to the lands in dispute; Harl. MS. 2112, fol. 159. The suits went on for some years after this, with varying success.

¹⁹ Duchy of Lanc. Assize R. 8, m. 4.

²⁰ De Banco R. 440, m. 244; he was plaintiff in a continuation of the old suits.

²¹ *Lancs. Inq. p.m.* (Chet. Soc.), ii, 40; he is stated to have held no lands.

Thomas de Hyde of Urmston and Margaret his wife granted to feoffees their manor of Urmston with the appurtenances; the date is uncertain; Harl. MS. 2112, fol. 160.

In 1419 Thomas de Hyde of Urmston and Margaret his wife empowered John de Bamford to give seisin of all their lands, &c., in Stockport, Offerton, and Marple to George their son and Alice daughter of Robert de Stockport; Bramhall D.

Arrangements were made in 1429 for the marriage of Thomas son of George de Hyde with Margaret daughter of Thomas de Leigh of Baguley. The marriage portion was 40 marks, the jointure 6 marks, and lands in Urmston to the clear value of 6 marks were set out for the purpose; Harl. MS. 2112, fol. 160.

²² *Lancs. Inq. p.m.* ii, 50.

²³ Harl. MS. 2112, fol. 160; the lands assigned were those in Urmston tenanted by Henry Johnson, Agnes Milner, Richard Gefferson, Robert Gefferson, and Richard Sherlock.

²⁴ *Ibid.* fol. 161; Sir John Booth was the arbitrator.

George Hyde was at Chester outlawed for debt in Sept. 1487, and his lands at Offerton and Marple were seized; Ches. Inq. 3 Hen. VII, no. 2.

²⁵ Harl. MS. 2112, fol. 161, 177; the contract was made between Thomas Hyde and Ellen, widow of Sir John Booth; Elizabeth's portion was 85 marks, and a jointure of 4 marks was provided for.

²⁶ Duchy of Lanc. Inq. p.m. viii, 37. To Thomas his son he granted pastures called Cobrysshes and Medylst Raynshaghe for life; to James, another son, the Horsecroft, Newhey, and Formeste Raynshaghe for life; to Hamnet, another son, lands in Cheshire. Margaret his wife survived him.

²⁷ Harl. MS. 2112, fol. 161 d. In the following year William the father married Douce, 'cousin' of John Warburton; *ibid.*

²⁸ Duchy of Lanc. Inq. p.m. xii, 31. By his second wife he had a daughter Ellen, who married Thomas Boydel of Pulford. The latter, shortly after his father-in-law's death, had disputes with the son; *Ducatus*, iii, 32, 33.

recorded in 1567, but some of the earlier steps are omitted or wrongly given.²⁹

William Hyde died 26 August 1587, holding the manor, with messuages, windmill, and lands in Urmston of the queen, as of her Duchy of Lancaster, by the eighth part of a knight's fee and a rent of 8s. 2d.; he also held a burgage in Stockport and lands in Cheshire. John his son and heir was ten years of age.³⁰ John Hyde was married in 1598-9, his wife, Susan daughter of William Ashton of Clegg, bringing him a portion of £400.³¹ A pedigree was recorded in 1613, the eldest son George being then six years of age.³² A settlement of the manor had been made the year before.³³ A further settlement was made in 1642, by John Hyde, Susan his wife, George Hyde and Margaret his wife.³⁴ John Hyde died in 1644, his wife having died the year before; and George died two years after his father.³⁵

In 1642 Susan the daughter and heir of George Hyde married Richard Hulme of Davyhulme,³⁶ by whom she had a son William, the heir of Urmston. She afterwards married Richard Starkie,³⁷ and in 1670 a settlement was made by Richard Starkie and Susan his wife, William Hulme, Thomas Lucas, and Hannah his wife.³⁸ William Hulme, high sheriff in 1701,³⁹ died in November 1708,⁴⁰ and his mother followed him in February.⁴¹ John, the eldest surviving son of William Hulme, succeeded,⁴² and left a daughter Anne,

who as 'heirress of Davyhulme and of the lordship and manor of Urmston,' was married at Flixton 3 September 1735 to Thomas eldest son of the celebrated



URMSTON HALL: EAST SIDE

²⁹ *Visit.* (Chet. Soc.), 14.

³⁰ Duchy of Lanc. Inq. p.m. xiv, 49; a third of the manor was devoted to the use of the son John, another third to the widow, Margaret, and the remaining third to the daughters Bridget and Anne until the son should come of age. His will is printed in full in Piccope, *Wills* (Chet. Soc.), ii, 189-91; he desired to be buried in the chancel at Flixton. His harness, with his bow and arrows, was to be kept for the use of his son. Margaret, the widow, was in 1593 concerned in a suit respecting the Old Hall in Urmston with a tenant of the Radcliffes; *Ducatus*, iii, 304.

In 1589 Richard Gerard, rector of Stockport, surrendered to the widow the wardship of her son; Harl. MS. 2112, fol. 162.

³¹ *Ibid.* A settlement of the manor, &c., was made at the same time by the widow, her son and his wife; Pal. of Lanc. Feet of F. bdle. 61, no. 343.

³² *Visit.* (Chet. Soc.), 53; two deeds are quoted in it.

³³ Pal. of Lanc. Feet of F. bdle. 82, no. 27.

³⁴ *Ibid.* bdle. 141, no. 1.

³⁵ These dates, and later ones for which no other authority is quoted, are taken from the Flixton registers.

John Hyde in 1631 paid £10 on refusing knighthood; *Misc.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), i, 215. In his will of 12 Mar. 1643-4, he mentioned his wife Margaret, his grandchild Sarah and her husband Richard Hulme, also two

grandchildren, sons of George Griffith of Prescott.

³⁶ He was the son of William Hulme of Davyhulme, buried at Eccles 20 Jan. 1640-1; he was himself baptized at Eccles 1 Aug. 1624, and buried there 5 June 1649; Hulme pedigree in Piccope's MS. i, 327. The surname of Margaret, George Hyde's wife, is unknown. The Urmston halmote in 1642 was that of John Hyde, the next (in 1647) was that of Richard Hulme, the next (in 1651) was that of Richard Starkie, the next (in 1673) was that of William Hulme.

³⁷ Richard Starkie of Urmston was summoned by the heralds at the Visitation in 1664; Dugdale, *Visit.* (Chet. Soc.), v.

In 1650 Richard Starkie's mother seems to have been living at Warrington; Crofton, *Stretford* (Chet. Soc.), iii, 204.

³⁸ Pal. of Lanc. Feet of F. bdle. 184, m. 81.

William Hulme, baptized at Flixton 5 April 1649, married Hannah daughter of Samuel Blackleach at Macclesfield, where her father was alderman, on 9 Dec. 1668; James, the eldest son, was born 30 Aug. 1669. Hannah Hulme the wife was buried at Flixton 6 Oct. 1684.

In 1673 William Hulme in a petition to the Chancellor of the Duchy set forth his descent and claim to the lordship of Urmston, and lands, &c., in Urmston, Hulme, and Newcroft, reciting the settlements and stating that his mother had surrendered her estate therein, and he had

taken peaceable possession; but Peter Holford of London, Elizabeth his wife, Charles Moore of London, and Alice his wife had obtained certain deeds and sought to oust, alleging in particular that George Hyde, his grandfather, was 'a mad and distracted person' at the time of the settlement in 1642; Lancs. Chan. Bills, P.R.O., vol. xxx.

There was a recovery of the manor in 1705, William Hulme being a vouchee; Pal. of Lanc. Plea R. 482, m. 2 d.

He is several times mentioned in the Kenyon MSS. (*Hist. MSS. Com. Rep.* xiv, App. iv), and some of his letters are printed. In 1694 he wrote to Roger Kenyon respecting 'an impudent conventicle' held just by him; he desired to suppress it; *ibid.* 250.

³⁹ P.R.O. List, 74.

⁴⁰ His will, dated 26 Mar. 1707, mentions John his son and heir, and his daughters Mary (wife of Thomas Shaw of Manchester), Hannah, Elizabeth, Frances, Jane, and Susannah.

⁴¹ She is described in the register as 'mother of the late Captain Hulme.'

⁴² John Hulme was baptized at Flixton 20 Feb. 1679-80, and was married there on 19 April 1711 to Elizabeth Bate. She was buried there on 1 June 1724. A lease by John Hulme to John Dewhurst in 1718 is recited in a deed in Manchester Free Library, no. 113.

There was a recovery of the manor, &c., in 1736, John Hulme being a vouchee; Pal. of Lanc. Plea R. 542, m. 5.

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antiquary Browne Willis of Bletchley.⁴³ Thomas Willis, perhaps the son, was lord of the manor in 1765,⁴⁴ but soon afterwards it was sold, together with Davyhulme, and has since passed through several hands.⁴⁵ It was in March 1822 purchased from William Marsden's trustees by John Miller, who bequeathed it for life to George Lewis Ridehalgh. The last-named was succeeded by his son, Colonel George John Miller Ridehalgh; after his death in 1892 his widow held it, and on her death recently it passed to Mr. George Ridehalgh, the present lord of the manor.⁴⁶

A rental of 1779 shows that the Duchy of Lancaster then received 10s. 4d. from Urmston; of this sum 8s. 3d. was paid by William Allen and 9d. by the owner of Newcroft.⁴⁷

Manor courts were held up to about the time of Colonel Ridehalgh's death, but had degenerated into an annual dinner.⁴⁸

Urmston Hall stands a little to the west of the church and is a two-story timber and plaster building

on a stone base, now used as a farm-house. The principal front, which faces north, is entirely of wood and plaster under a single gable about 21 ft. wide, and on the east side are two timber gables with a good brick chimney between. The whole of the west and south fronts, together with an addition at the south-east, are built of brick. The house is probably of late 16th-century date, but has been a good deal altered since, and is in only a moderate state of repair. Two windows, each of seven lights, in one of the side gables are now made up, and all the windows have lost their original glazing, or are otherwise modernized. The gables are without barge-boards, but that on the north front has a good hip knob on which is the date

1721 and the initials *IHE*. Probably a good deal of repair and renovation was done at this time, and the south-west sides rebuilt in brick. From the north-east the house, which stands back from the road amid trees, has a very picturesque appearance, the two fronts

being well broken up with gables and chimneys. The quatrefoils along the front elevation and other portions of the black and white work, however, are only painted on the plaster, but the main timber construction of the building remains, and what restoration there has been follows the original lines. The half-timber work consists of a simple design with horizontal pieces and straight uprights and a central band of ornament. The entrance door on the north side is the original one of thick oak, nail-studded, and with good ornamental hinges and ring handle.

Of the other portions of the manor no proper account can be given. The Urmston family continued to hold theirs for some time.⁴⁹ The principal estate was *NEW-*



URMSTON HALL: NORTH FRONT

⁴³ Pedigree in Burke, *Commoners*, ii, 372-5. John Willis brother of Thomas was rector of Bletchley, but was buried at Flixton 24 July 1741.

Anne Willis daughter of Thomas was born 11 Aug. 1736; Thomas the son was born 11 Feb. 1737-8; and Hulme, another son, was buried 4 Mar. 1738-9; Flixton Reg.

⁴⁴ Lawson, *Flixton*, 104, quoting an advertisement in the *Manchester Mercury*, 9 July 1765.

There was a recovery of the manor of Urmston, &c., in 1759, Thomas Willis and Arthur Trollope being vouchees; Pal. of Lanc. Plea R. 591, m. 3.

⁴⁵ In 1773 Roger Sedgwick was plaintiff and William Allen and Ellen his wife defendants in a fine respecting the manor of Urmston, with messuages, dovecouse, lands, common of pasture, and turbary, &c., in Urmston, Davyhulme, Newcroft, Shaw, Flixton, Lostock, Bent Lanes, Barton on Irwell, and Manchester; Pal. of Lanc. Feet of F. bdle. 389, m. 48. Wil-

liam Allen, a Manchester banker, became bankrupt in 1788, and his estates were sold.

⁴⁶ From information of Mr. Ridehalgh's solicitors, Messrs. Taylor, Kirkman & Co.

⁴⁷ Duchy of Lanc. Rentals, bdle. 14, no. 25 m.

⁴⁸ Lawson, *op. cit.* 105. A volume containing the Urmston Halmote Records from 1613 to 1699 is in the care of the solicitors above named.

⁴⁹ They have been noticed already in the account of the claims of Ralph de Hyde and his wife Aline. A Geoffrey de Urmston contributed to the subsidy of 1332; *Exch. Lay Subs.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), 41.

Richard the son of Adam de Urmston was succeeded about 1352 by his son Robert, who in July of that year was plaintiff against Thomas de Trafford; Duchy of Lanc. Assize R. 2, m. 4; R. 3, m. 3 d. 5. Robert also continued the family suits against the Hydes; *ibid.* R. 2, m. 4;

R. 3, m. 3 d. 4 d.; R. 8, m. 4. Richard son of Geoffrey de Urmston was also concerned in this litigation; Assize R. 435, m. 6 d. Robert de Urmston did not prosecute his writ in 1353 against Richard and Geoffrey sons of Geoffrey de Urmston; *ibid.* m. 22.

One of the disputes concerned a fishery in the Mersey as far as the thread of the water, taking salmon, bream, pike, &c., with nets or otherwise. Robert, quoting the charter of 1300, stated that Adam his grandfather had given to Richard his son and heir, on his marriage with Cecily daughter of Thomas de Hulme, three oxgangs in Urmston, with the buildings upon them, a moiety of the mills and fishery within all his limits (*defensis*), except his vivaries; but Ralph de Hyde and Aline his wife had disseised him. They denied that the proffered charter was Adam's; *ibid.* m. 30 d. Afterwards they objected that the wording of the writ was wrong, as it read 'de libero tenemento suo' instead of 'de communa piscarie sue,' and this

CROFT, regarded as a manor, held at one time by the Traffords,⁵⁰ then by the Warburtons,⁵¹ and in the 16th and 17th centuries by the Radcliffes of Ordsall.⁵² Sir Alexander Radcliffe of Ordsall, who died in 1549, held three-fourths of the manor of Newcroft and 100 acres of land, &c., there of the king (as duke) in socage by a rent of 9d. for all services.^{53a} By the end of the 18th century it had come into the possession of William Allen, then lord of the manor of Urmston,⁵³ and on his bankruptcy in 1788 was purchased by the Taylors of Hulme in Reddish, and remained in their possession nearly a century, being sold in 1888 by the trustee of Samuel

Taylor to Herbert Bannister. The estate was then supposed to be subject to some charitable rent-charges and also to a duchy rent of 9d., but it was stated that none of them had been demanded or paid for many years.⁵⁴ Newcroft is a plain brick building once surrounded by a moat, of no architectural beauty whatever.⁵⁵ Roger Rogers of Newcroft was summoned by the heralds to attend the visitation of 1664; no pedigree appears.^{55a}

Hillam,⁵⁶ the Lodge,⁵⁷ and Brook House⁵⁸ represent old estates. A ghost story was told of Gamershaw, a house at the east side of the township.⁵⁹ The Newton,⁶⁰ Gregory,⁶¹ and Hey⁶² families were freeholders.

seems to have been fatal; Assize R. 435, m. 17. In another case, in which Robert claimed 10 acres of land and pasture for six cows, they tried a technical objection, but did not succeed; *ibid.* m. 31 d.

In a document of about the same time John de Trafford of Urmston is said to hold two and a half oxgangs lately belonging to Geoffrey de Urmston, and five and a half oxgangs, by the eighth part of a knight's fee; *Duchy of Lanc. Misc. Bks. no. 130, fol. 16 d.* With this may be compared the statement of the 'Traffords' holding quoted in an earlier note.

⁵⁰ The Traffords of Newcroft have been frequently mentioned in the preceding notes. There seem to have been three generations—John, Henry, and Amice; but John and Thomas de Trafford are also mentioned. The Hydes were in 1354 and later involved in disputes with Cecily widow of John de Trafford of Newcroft regarding lands of which Roger son of Roger de Barlow was tenant. Cecily called Amice daughter of Henry de Trafford to warrant her; *Duchy of Lanc. Assize R. 3, m. 3 (July), 2 (East.); 4, m. 29; 5, m. 18 d. 20 d. &c.*

⁵¹ William de Warburton in 1357 was the husband of Amice the above-named daughter of Henry de Trafford, and they were called to warrant Cecily the widow of John in the suit with Ralph de Hyde and his wife; *ibid.* R. 6, m. 4 d. Later, at Michaelmas 1359, William and Amice claimed a messuage and lands against Richard de Hill, chaplain; *ibid.* R. 7, m. 1.

Disputes were still going on in 1370; *De Banco R. 440, m. 244; 446, m. 200 d.*

Geoffrey de Warburton of Newcroft in 1389–90 acknowledged a debt of £20 due to Adam de Lever; *Pal. of Lanc. Chan. Misc. 1/3.* He and Katherine his wife, widow of Thomas de Knoll, sent up a petition concerning lands in Chipping in 1425; *Lancs. Inq. p.m. (Chet. Soc.), i, 73; ii, 9.*

William de Warburton of Newcroft in 1429–30 made a grant of land in Urmston to Richard his son on the occasion of his marriage with Marion daughter of Maud Ashton; Newcroft and Foxdenton D. (Chet. Lib.).

Thomas Warburton in 1531 disputed the title to Newcroft against Sir Alexander Radcliffe and others; *Ducatus Lanc. (Rec. Com.), i, 149.*

In 1566 Peter Warburton, who had married Katherine daughter and heir of John Cowper, and claimed under a grant from William Hyde, proceeded against the last-named and others for divers trespasses; *ibid.* ii, 334.

⁵² Richard Smith and Randle Ryder of Flixton in 1532 sold to Sir Alexander Radcliffe of Ordsall their moiety of Newcroft, late the inheritance of Richard Warburton, and later in the same year

Thomas Warburton of Tabley Hill, Cheshire, sold his moiety to the same; Newcroft D. (Chet. Lib.).

^{52a} *Duchy of Lanc. Inq. p.m. ix, 26.* Similar statements are made in the inquisitions after the death of Sir William Radcliffe (1568), Sir John Radcliffe (1590), and Sir Alexander Radcliffe (1599); *ibid.* xiii, 33; xv, 45; xvii, 35.

Richard Radcliffe, youngest son of Sir William, lived at Newcroft, holding it on lease from his brother Sir John Radcliffe (Newcroft D.), and was buried at Flixton. His memorial brass states that he was 'captain over 200 foot at the siege of Leith and at the rebellion in the north.' By his second wife he acquired the estate of Foxdenton in Chadderton. He had also an estate in Altcar.

In 1605 Sir John Radcliffe of Ordsall made a settlement (or a sale) of the manor of Newcroft, with messuages, gardens, lands, and common of pasture; *Pal. of Lanc. Feet. of F. bdle. 68, no. 16.*

About 1632 there was a dispute as to Newcroft between Greenhalgh and Radcliffe; *Lancs. and Ches. Rec. (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), ii, 246.*

⁵³ From references already given it would appear that Newcroft had been purchased by the Hulmes, and from their heirs by William Allen.

⁵⁴ *End. Char. Rep. for Flixton (1900), pp. 3, 6.* The price paid in 1888 was £4,000; *Lawson, Flixton, 105.*

⁵⁵ D. H. Langton, *Hist. of Flixton, 30.*

^{55a} Dugdale, *Visit. v. Roger Rogers, gent.*, in Nov. 1690 became steward of the Urmston halmote, and appears among the free tenants at the same court. He ceased to hold the office between 27 Aug. and 26 Sept. 1695, when William Rogers succeeded him. In 1699 Peter Egerton of Shaw Hall granted Shaw Manor House to Richard Tonge and William Rogers of Stretford; *Baines, Lancs. (ed. Croston), iii, 307.* In 1701 William Rogers became steward of Stretford Court Baron.

⁵⁶ The title to Hylland was in 1548 disputed by Giles and William Partington; *Ducatus Lanc. (Rec. Com.), ii, 88;* see also i, 228, ii, 94, for other references to the family; *Duchy Plead. (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), iii, 34.* In 1559 John Partington of Manchester, mercer, sold all his lands in Urmston to Edmund Trafford; he inherited from his uncle James Partington, and another uncle, Ralph, is named. The tenants were John Gregory, Thomas Gregory, George Gregory, William Holland, and Thomas Gregory of Hillam; *De Trafford D. no. 115, 116.* In 1546 William Partington had purchased from John Gregory and John his son six messuages, &c., in Urmston; *Pal. of Lanc. Feet. of F. bdle. 12, m. 256.*

⁵⁷ *Lawson, op. cit. 108; known as*

'Pine apple hall' from a carving over the door.

⁵⁸ *Ibid.*; now known as the 'Grange.'

⁵⁹ *Ibid.* 109; the house called the 'Anchorage' stands on the site. Gamershaw is a corruption of Crimelashgh; see D. of 1554 in Crofton, *Stretford, ii, 42.*

⁶⁰ John Newton, who died in 1597, held a messuage in Urmston of the queen; John his son and heir was about sixteen; *Duchy of Lanc. Inq. p.m. xvii, no. 82.* Newton of Urmston occurs in the list of freeholders in 1600; *Misc. (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), i, 249.* Robert Newton of Urmston had land in Barton on lease in 1676–7; *De Trafford D. no. 112.*

Mr. Crofton adds the following further information:—In 1673 John Newton paid hearth tax in Stretford for one hearth; *Stretford, iii, 212.* On 21 Nov. 1684 'John son of Mr. John Newton of Stretford' married Sarah daughter of Mr. Francis Brown of Manchester; *Stretford Reg.* John Newton was steward of Stretford Court Baron. He was also a highway overseer for Stretford in 1691, and chapelwarden in 1700. He was buried at Bowdon 3 June 1701, and the entry in the Stretford registers calls him 'gentleman.' The will of 'John Newton of Stretford, yeoman,' was proved at Chester the same year. On 27 Sept. 1690 letters of administration had been granted to John Newton of Stretford, yeoman, as kinsman of Winifred wife of Thomas Barlow of Barlow, who was daughter of Anthony Meinell of N. Kilvington, co. York. She had been wife of—Killingbeck of Ellerton Grange, co. York, and was buried at Manchester Collegiate Church in 1690. Thomas Newton was John Newton's executor. In Oct. 1620 the Urmston Halmote Recs. mention Thomas Newton senr. and junr., John Newton, gent., free tenant, and William Newton, inhabitant.

⁶¹ Robert de Moston of Chester and Cecily his wife in 1402 gave to William son of Robert Gregory all their lands in Urmston; *De Trafford D. no. 296.* Thomas de Hyde in 1418–19 contracted to marry his daughter Maud to William Gregory the younger of Leigh; *Harl. MS. 2112, fol. 160.* John Gregory of Newcroft was by Richard Radcliffe in 1593 called upon to pay a debt due to Sir Edmund Trafford for fine and gressum; *Ducatus Lanc. iii, 289.* Henry Gregory contributed to the subsidy in 1622 for lands; *Misc. (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), i, 154.* A pedigree recorded in 1567 shows that the Gregories claimed by descent from Adam Urmston of Urmston; *Visit. (Chet. Soc.), 7.*

⁶² Hugh Scott of Wigan and Alice his wife had lands in Urmston in 1576; *Pal. of Lanc. Feet. of F. bdle. 38, m. 119.* Edmund Hey in 1590 purchased a messuage, &c.,

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The most considerable contributor to the land tax of 1796 was William Marsden; after him came John Gregory, Stevenson's trustees, and Patten; these in all paid about a third of the tax.⁶³

Robert Barlow of Urmston joined Prince Rupert when he invaded the county—in 1644—took part in the battle at York, and continued in arms with that force; his property seems to have been confiscated.⁶⁴

In connexion with the Established Church a school-chapel was opened in 1858; this was followed within ten years by St. Clement's Church, consecrated in January 1868. The site of church and churchyard was the gift of Colonel Ridehalgh. A separate district was assigned to it, and the patronage is vested in the Bishop of Manchester.⁶⁵

The Wesleyan Methodists have had a meeting-place here since about 1813, but services were discontinued for some years after 1850. They were resumed about 1868, and in 1872 the present church was opened. The Primitive Methodists had a chapel in 1825, but the present one dates from 1873. The Independent Methodists have had services since 1838.⁶⁶

A Congregationalist minister preached occasionally in Urmston about 1840, but the present church dates only from 1880, services having begun in a school-room the previous year.⁶⁷ The Baptists have a church.

The Unitarians have held services since 1894.⁶⁸

The Roman Catholic church of the English Martyrs was opened in 1891.⁶⁹

RADCLIFFE

Radeclive, Dom. Bk., 1193, 1202, 1212, 1311; Radcliffe, 1227; Radeclif, 1309, 1360. The place is said to take its name from a cliff of red sandstone on the side of the Irwell.

The township and parish of Radcliffe lies in a bend of the River Irwell, which bounds it on the east and south, except in a few places where the difference of boundary may be explained by changes in the course of the river or other causes. The principal ancient buildings, the church and the tower, are situated in the south-east corner, at which point the Roch, flowing from the east, joins the Irwell. The township measures 2½ miles from east to west, and has an area of 2,533 acres.¹ The highest land, about 500 ft. above sea level, is in the north-west, and from it the surface gradually descends to the east and south, the land by the river being of course the lowest. The population in 1901 was 20,590.² The Coal Measures underlie the entire parish. There is a large area in the valley of the Irwell, both above and below the confluence with the River Roch, covered by alluvial deposit. The principal road is that passing north-west through Pilkington and crossing the river by a bridge about a mile west-south-west of the church. Around this point a hamlet called Radcliffe Bridge gradually formed, and has in modern times become the centre of trade and population. The road, after crossing the bridge, goes northerly to join the Bury and Bolton road, passing through the hamlet called Black Lane. To the north of the Bury and Bolton road is the Radcliffe portion of Cockey Moor. From the bridge roads go eastward to the church, and then cross the Irwell to join the Manchester and Bury road. Other roads go west through Little Lever to Bolton.

The Lancashire and Yorkshire Company's Liverpool and Bury line crosses the north of the township, going east and north-east, and has a station at Black Lane. The company's East Lancashire section, with a station at Radcliffe Bridge, runs through the township, and is joined by the line through Prestwich to Manchester, which has a station called Radcliffe. The Bury Canal crosses the township on the north-west side of the town, and then goes west near the Irwell till it joins the Manchester and Bolton Canal in Little Lever.³

Dr. Aikin in 1795 found the 400 houses in the township for the most part 'of an inferior sort,' and the inhabitants chiefly weavers, crofters, or employed in the coal works which abounded in the neighbourhood; those who lived by farming being very few.⁴ The village has now grown into a town, and gives a name to one of the Parliamentary divisions of the county.⁵ Part of the area was incorporated in Bury in 1876, and the remainder was governed by a local board formed in 1866.⁶ The town, together with a portion of Whitefield in Pilkington, is under the Act of 1894 governed by an Urban District Council of twenty-four members, elected from four wards—Radcliffe Hall, Radcliffe Bridge, Black Lane, and Stand Lane; the last is in Pilkington.⁷ The council-room is at the public baths, built in 1899. The market house and market rights were purchased from Lord Wilton in 1897. Technical schools were opened in 1896, a public park in 1902, and a free library, the gift of Mr. Carnegie, in 1907. A museum has been given by the Literary and Scientific Society.

Gas is supplied by a company formed in 1846. Electric lighting works have been established recently.

from Hugh Scott, Gilbert his son and heir, and Margaret wife of Gilbert, Richard brother of Hugh, and Roger brother of Gilbert; Pal. of Lanc. Feet of F. bde. 54, m. 156. John Hey, who died in 1596, held messuages in Urmston and Culcheth, and left as heir his son Edmund, six years of age; Duchy of Lanc. Inq. p.m. xvii, no. 90.

Mr. Crofton adds: At Urmston hal-mote 19 Oct. 1613 (when Edmund Hey would be twenty-three) the free tenants who are recorded were Alexander Radcliffe, gent., John Newton, gent., and the heirs of John Hey—each fined 6d. for not appearing. This is the only record relating to Hey. At next Court, 16 Apr.

1614, only Radcliffe and Newton are named, as if Hey had sold to someone.

⁶³ Returns at Preston.

⁶⁴ *Royalist Comp. Papers* [Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.], i, 137.

⁶⁵ Lawson, *Flixton*, 98-102; *Lond. Gaz.* 31 Mar. 1868 (district).

⁶⁶ Lawson, op. cit. 130, 131.

⁶⁷ Nightingale, *Lancs. Nonconf.* v, 74, 77-9; Lawson, op. cit. 131.

⁶⁸ Ibid.

⁶⁹ Ibid.

¹ 2,473, including 120 of inland water, according to the census of 1901. Various alterations in the boundaries were made in 1894 and 1896. In the former year part of Radcliffe on the east of the Irwell

was included in Bury, while a fragment of Elton was placed in Radcliffe (Local Govt. Bd. Orders 31671 and 30905); and later Whitefield in Pilkington had a portion of Radcliffe added to it; *ibid.* 33855.

² Including Stand Lane, the population was 25,368.

³ The canal has a large reservoir on the border of Radcliffe and Elton.

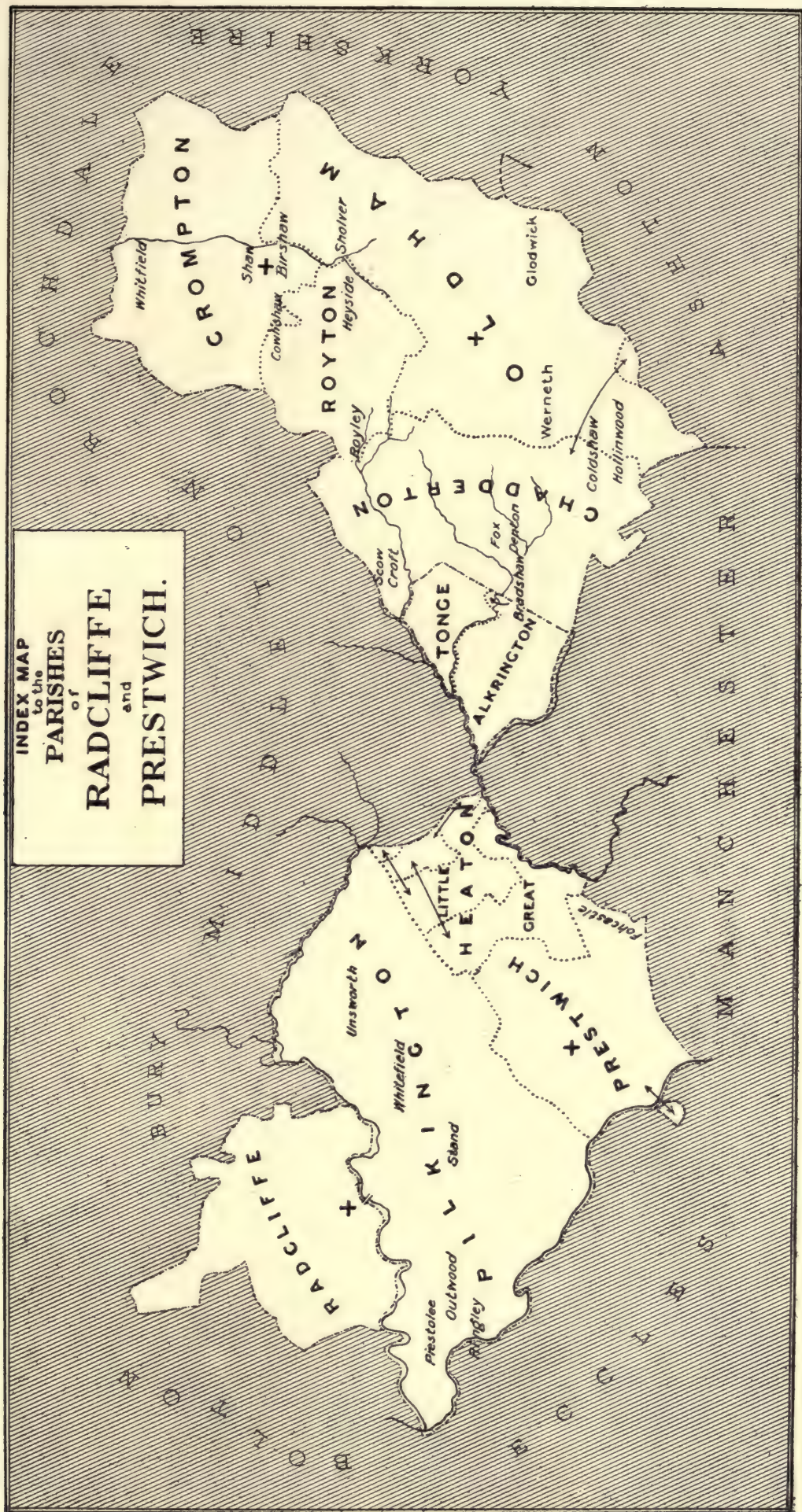
⁴ *Country round Manch.* 259.

⁵ Radcliffe-cum-Farnworth Division.

⁶ *Lond. Gaz.* 25 May 1866.

⁷ The bounds of each ward are given in detail in the official year-book issued by the council.

INDEX MAP
to the
PARISHES
of
RADCLIFFE
and
PRESTWICH.



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Tramways, constructed by the district council, are leased to the Corporation of Bury.

A market-house was erected by the Earl of Wilton in 1851; Friday is the market day.⁸ The wakes begin on the third Saturday in August.

A convalescent hospital was presented to the town in 1903 by Mr. Adam Crompton Bealey in memory of his parents.

A weekly newspaper, *The Radcliffe Times*, founded in 1899, is printed at Bury.

A Roman road, commemorated by Blackburn Street, passed northwards through Radcliffe Bridge.

There was a cross to the north-west of the church.⁹

There were 108 hearths liable to the tax in 1666. The rectory had only five hearths, but there was one larger house, that of James Holland, with six.¹⁰

The following is the apportionment of agricultural land in the parish: Arable land, 561 acres; permanent grass, 1,221; woods and plantations, 75.

There are several collieries, with cotton mills and factories, the trades of the town including cotton-spinning, the weaving of gingham, scarves, handkerchiefs, sarongs, &c., and the making of small-wares; bleaching, finishing, dyeing, paper-making, iron-founding, and machine-making; there are also chemical manufactories.

At his death in 1066 Edward the Confessor held **RADCLIFFE** as one hide.¹¹

The extent of the royal manor must have been much greater than that of the present township, which was in 1212 assessed as one plough-land only. Allowing for a reduction of the assessment by a third, it is clear that the later manor of Radcliffe can have been but a fourth part of the original one. At the later date mentioned it formed part of the Marsey fee, and was held of Ranulf son of Roger by William de Radcliffe.¹² William was in possession in 1193, when he proffered 5 marks for having the king's favour after the rebellion of John, Count of Mortain.¹³ In 1199 he paid 10 marks for an inquiry concerning land in Hartshead,¹⁴ and later he contributed to tallage and scutage.¹⁵ In 1202 he secured

an acknowledgement of his right to the advowson of Radcliffe Church.¹⁶ He was one of the 'trusty knights' who made the great Survey of 1212, at which time he was found to hold, in addition to Radcliffe, 12 oxgangs in Edgeworth.¹⁷ He died before 1221, when his widow Eugenia sued Adam de Radcliffe for her dower in a plough-land in Radcliffe, a plough-land in Edgeworth, and 4 oxgangs of land in Little Lever.¹⁸

Adam de Radcliffe is mentioned in 1223,¹⁹ and in 1227 acknowledged the service due to the lord of Manchester for Little Lever.²⁰ In 1246 as Adam son of William de Radcliffe he was acquitted of having disseised Adam son of Alexander de Radcliffe and Peter son of Adam of 4 acres of common of pasture in Radcliffe, where he had dug a mine; but he was convicted of other disseisin.²¹ Adam had also to answer Cecily de Gorchull, who claimed an oxgang in Radcliffe, of which she alleged William father of Adam had disseised her, but he alleged that Hugh son of Spraging, Cecily's father, had exchanged that oxgang for other land in Gorchull.²² Geoffrey son of Hugh de Gorchull in 1284 claimed a messuage and lands in Radcliffe against Richard son of Robert de Radcliffe.²³

Richard de Radcliffe was in 1302 holding the eighth part of a fee in Radcliffe of the Earl of Lancaster.²⁴ Two years later he had from the king a grant of free warren in his demesne lands of Radcliffe and Quarltun.²⁵ William son of Richard de Radcliffe is next found in possession. He married Margaret daughter and heir of Adam de Hindley, and with her had Peasfurlong, a fourth part of Culcheth.²⁶ In 1324 he held the manor of Radcliffe by homage and the yearly service of 6s. for castle-ward and 2s. 6d. for sake fee, and by the service of the half and the tenth part of a knight's fee.²⁷



RADCLIFFE of Radcliffe. *Argent a bend-let engrailed sable.*

⁸ There were unchartered fairs held at the end of April and September; Baines, *Lancs.* (ed. 1868), i, 533.

⁹ *Lancs. and Ches. Antiq. Soc.* xxii, 139.

¹⁰ *Subs. R.* bdle. 250, no. 9, *Lancs.*

¹¹ *V.C.H. Lancs.* i, 287.

¹² *Lancs. Inq. and Extents* (Rec. Soc. *Lancs. and Ches.*), i, 71. The service mentioned is 6s.; in later inquisitions it is described as the eighth part of a knight's fee, held of the Earl or Duke of Lancaster directly.

The parentage of William de Radcliffe is not known. One Henry de Radcliffe attested a charter in 1189; Farrer, *Lancs. Pipe R.* 350. Alexander son of Uvieth received 2 oxgangs in Little Lever from Albert Grelley the younger (1162 to 1180), and as Adam de Radcliffe was in possession in 1227, it is possible that Alexander was the father of William; *Lancs. Inq. and Extents*, i, 57, 130. It will be seen that an Adam son of Alexander occurs in 1246.

William de Radcliffe and Hugh his son attested a Withington charter about 1200; Hulme D. no. 1.

¹³ Farrer, *Lancs. Pipe R.* 77.

¹⁴ *Ibid.* 117, 129, &c. He had given Nicholas of the Oak the two plough-lands, and seems to have desired to withdraw the

grant, alleging it to have been made under compulsion of confinement while in prison.

¹⁵ *Ibid.* 151, 153, 176, &c.

¹⁶ *Final Conc.* (Rec. Soc. *Lancs. and Ches.*), i, 10.

¹⁷ *Lancs. Inq. and Extents*, i, 2, 67.

¹⁸ *Ibid.* 129; *Curia Regis R.* 78, m. 14 d.

¹⁹ *Final Conc.* i, 44 n.

²⁰ *Ibid.* i, 47. This may be a different Adam.

²¹ *Assize R.* 404, m. 6 d. Adam son of Alexander at the same time claimed, as heir of his grandfather Simon de Radcliffe, certain land in Radcliffe held by Henry de Oswaldtwistle; *ibid.* m. 12 d.

²² *Ibid.* m. 11 d.

²³ *Assize R.* 1268, m. 12 d. Robert de Radcliffe was probably the Robert son of Adam, who had land in Oswaldtwistle in 1241; *Final Conc.* i, 85. Robert was a juror in 1269, and Richard in 1282; *Lancs. Inq. and Extents*, i, 235, 244.

John son of Adam son of William de Radcliffe was nonsuited in a claim against Roger de Middleton in 1292; Agnes widow of Adam de Radcliffe was also nonsuited in a claim of dower; *Assize R.* 408, m. 32 d. 30 d.

²⁴ *Lancs. Inq. and Extents*, i, 314.

²⁵ *Chart. R.* 97 (32 Edw. I), m. 2, no.

17; dated 23 July 1304. The 'park' at Radcliffe used to be to the south of the Tower.

In the same year and up to 1307 Richard de Radcliffe had to defend his title to a messuage and land in Radcliffe which were claimed by William de Marklan, rector of Prestwich, as the free alms of his church; *De Banco R.* 149, m. 255; *R.* 155, m. 137 d.; *R.* 163, m. 162. Robert son of Richard de Radcliffe, and William his brother were defendants in 1306 and 1307; *Coram Rege R.* 185, m. 1 d.; *R.* 188, m. 38. Richard de Radcliffe, Robert his son (dead in 1309), and Adam brother of Robert about the same time seized the lands of Adam de Lever in Little Lever, pretending a right of wardship; *Assize R.* 423, m. 1 d.

²⁶ They were married in or before 1303; *De Banco R.* 148, m. 71; Margery was a widow in 1333; *Harl. MS.* 2112, fol. 152b/188b. See further in the account of Culcheth.

²⁷ *Duchy of Lanc. Rentals and Surv.* 379, m. 13; *Lancs. Inq. and Extents*, ii, 102.

In the elaborate pedigree in Whitaker, *Whalley*, ii, 292, said to have been prepared by William Radclyffe, Rouge Croix, and verified by deeds in the Towneley

Richard son of William succeeded, and in 1346 held Radcliffe by the half and tenth part of a knight's fee, the service of 2s. 6d. a year, and puture.²⁸ He occurs in various ways down to 1371,²⁹ and appears to have been followed by his grandson³⁰ James, who in 1403 received the king's licence to rebuild the manor-house at Radcliffe, erecting a hall and two towers of stone, and fortifying them with crenellation and battlements.³¹ He died in 1409, holding the manor of Radcliffe, the fourth part of Culcheth, and other lands; Richard his son and heir was thirty years of age.³² Livery was at once granted to the heir,³³ who was knight of the shire in 1425.³⁴ He died in or before 1442,³⁵ and was succeeded by his son James,³⁶ whose son John followed and died in 1485, holding the manor of Radcliffe and the advowson of the church, and various other manors and lands; the heir, his son Richard, was thirty-one years of age.³⁷

MSS. it is stated that Ralph, the eldest son of Robert, elder brother of William, dying childless, left Radcliffe to his uncle William. It appears, however, that in 1309 the family manors of Radcliffe, Oswaldtwistle, and Quariton were settled on William son of Richard de Radcliffe by Richard son of Robert de Radcliffe, with remainder to Richard son of William; *Final Conc.* ii, 5.

In 1323 William son of Richard de Radcliffe was defendant in a claim by John son of Richard de Radcliffe regarding a tenement in Radcliffe; *Assize R.* 425, m. 1. He was returned by the sheriff in 1324 as one of those having lands over £15 annual value; *Palgrave, Parl. Writs*, ii, 1319. As appears by a previous note, he died before 1333.

²⁸ Add. MS. 32103, fol. 146.

In 1344 it appears that Richard de Radcliffe was the husband of Isabel daughter and co-heir of John son of Michael de Harcla; *De Banco R.* 340, m. 400.

In 1347 William son of Robert de Radcliffe and Richard de Reddish complained that Richard son of William de Radcliffe and his feoffees had disseised them of the manors of Radcliffe and Prestwich, and various lands there and in Edgeworth and Oswaldtwistle. It appeared that the plaintiffs had been enfeoffed by Richard in 1342, and that he had recently made a new feoffment; *Assize R.* 1435, 18 d. See farther under Prestwich.

²⁹ About 1355 livery was granted to Richard de Radcliffe of a messuage and 12 acres in Radcliffe seized into the duke's hands, because Adam de Radcliffe, who had held them of Richard, was hanged for felony, the duke having had his year and day and waste therein; *Dep. Keeper's Rep.* xxxii, App. 344. In 1365 licence was granted by the bishop for the oratories of Richard de Radcliffe at Radcliffe and elsewhere; *Lich. Epis. Reg.* v, fol. 116. In 1369 Richard son of William de Radcliffe and Isabel his wife were concerned in a settlement of Prestwich manor; *Final Conc.* ii, 176.

³⁰ So in the pedigree referred to above. Whitaker gives the descent as follows, from a deed in the church chest at Blackburn, written about 1514: Richard de Radcliffe the old — s. William — s. Richard — s. William — s. James — s. Richard — s. James — s. John — s. Roger — s. John (then under age); *Whalley*, ii, 290. A William de Radcliffe, perhaps the father of James, was sheriff in 1357-8; *Duchy of Lanc. Assize R.* 6, m. 3.

³¹ *Cal. Pat.* 1401-3, p. 255; it is printed in full by Whitaker; *Whalley*, ii, 291. The hall is the alleged scene of the events related in 'Lady Isabel's Tragedy, or the Stepmother's Cruelty,' a ballad in *Percy's Reliques*; the stepmother is said to have made the cook kill her husband's only daughter (Ellen or Isabel) and serve her up in a pie, which was ready on his return. A scullion boy, who had offered himself as a substitute, revealed the iniquity and was made heir; *Lancs. and Ches. Antig. Soc.* vii, 282.

³² *Lancs. Inq. p.m.* (Chet. Soc.), i, 94. The service for Radcliffe was the half and tenth part of a knight's fee, and 8s. 8d. a year. Lands in Harwood went to Henry de Radcliffe. From a later inquisition it appears that Henry was the son of James, and ancestor of the Radcliffes of Framsdenden in Suffolk, who became extinct in the male line in 1527. The heir male was then Robert Radcliffe, Lord Fitz Walter, who also inherited Radcliffe, his pedigree being given as son of John Lord Fitz Walter, son of Sir John Radcliffe, son of John Radcliffe, son of James and brother of Henry; *ibid.* ii, 152. In another version of inquisition the grant to Henry de Radcliffe is recited; the remainders, after Henry son of James, were to Richard, John, Peter, William, and Roger, brothers of Henry, and then to Richard son of Thomas de Radcliffe of Winmarleigh; *Duchy of Lanc. Inq. p.m.* vi, 45.

³³ *Dep. Keeper's Rep.* xxxiii, App. 8.

³⁴ *Pink and Beaven, Parl. Repre. of Lancs.* 52. This seems to have been about the only service of the kind rendered by this family.

³⁵ The inquisition, taken in 1441-2, shows him to have held the manors of Radcliffe, Oswaldtwistle and Culcheth (part), and the advowson of Radcliffe; *Harl. MS.* 2085, fol. 446 b.

³⁶ In 1445-6 James son of Richard de Radcliffe held the half and the twentieth part of a knight's fee, viz. the manor of Radcliffe; *Duchy of Lanc. Knights' Fees*, 2/20.

³⁷ *Lancs. Inq. p.m.* (Chet. Soc.), ii, 120-2. The manor of Radcliffe was said to be held of the king as duke by knight's service and a rent of 10s. Robert Radcliffe and others held lands of Richard Radcliffe by a rent of 13s., and Richard held of the crown by knight's service and 1d. rent. The other manors were Oswaldtwistle and part of Culcheth.

Shortly afterwards Isabel widow of John Radcliffe, and John Radcliffe her

Richard Radcliffe died 8 June 1502, holding the manors of Radcliffe, Oswaldtwistle, and Moston, the moiety of Crumpsall, the fourth part of Culcheth, and the advowson of Radcliffe Church, with houses, mills, lands, and rents in those places, and in Lowton, Bolton, and Manchester. In 1500 he made a feoffment of his estates, with reversion after his male issue to his brothers John and Roger. The manor of Radcliffe was held of the king as Duke of Lancaster by the fourth part of a knight's fee and the yearly rent of 8s. 6d., and its clear annual value was £10. John his brother and next heir was forty years of age.³⁸ John Radcliffe, who thus succeeded, died 4 April 1513, leaving two daughters, and the manor passed to his nephew John son of Roger Radcliffe, fourteen years of age.³⁹ The wardship of the heir was early in the next year given to Queen Katherine,⁴⁰ but he died in 1517, before attaining his majority.⁴¹ There-

son, and Henry Radcliffe, another son of the deceased, as executors, complained that George Ainsworth and others had cut down and carried off 200 thraves of oats at Oswaldtwistle; *Pal. of Lanc. Plea R.* 63, m. 4.

Richard Radcliffe was in 1498 called upon to show by what warrant he claimed waifs and strays, &c., and free warren on his manors of Radcliffe and Oswaldtwistle; *Pal. of Lanc. Writs Proton.* 13 Hen. VII.

A feoffment of the manors was made by Richard Radcliffe in 1500; *Final Conc.* iii, 149. For some reason a special licence of entry on all his lands was given him in 1501; *Dep. Keeper's Rep.* xxxix, App. 558.

³⁸ *Duchy of Lanc. Inq. p.m.* iii, 98. His will is given. Bequests were made to his wife Alice and his brothers; an honest chaplain was to be provided to celebrate divine service in the church of Radcliffe for seven years next after his death. The widow received as dower lands in Culcheth, Crumpsall, Moston, and Lowton of the yearly value of £40 3s.

³⁹ *Duchy of Lanc. Inq. p.m.* iv, 7. In 1505-6 he made a settlement of his manors and lands, and in 1511 provided for the jointure of his wife Anne. His will, dated 24 November 1512, is given in full; by it he set apart 6½ marks a year for 'a sad, discreet and well-disposed' priest to pray in Radcliffe Church for the souls of the testator, his parents and brothers, &c., during the nonage of the heir male. He provided for his bastard son John, and his two daughters Ellen and Agnes; also for the four daughters of his brother Roger—Ellen, Isabel, Agnes, and Elizabeth. Should his nephew John die without male issue, the manors, &c., were to descend in succession to the male heirs of Robert Radcliffe (son of) 'the late Lord Fitz Walter, which deceased at Calais'—having been attainted for participating in the Perkin Warbeck attempt, and beheaded in 1496; of Thomas Radcliffe, lately lord of Framsdenden; of Thomas Radcliffe, sometime lord of Winmarleigh; and of William Radcliffe, sometime lord of Ordsall. The clear annual value of Radcliffe Manor was £40; the tenure is stated as in previous inquisitions.

It appears from the inquisitions that the Radcliffes of Ordsall held a few acres in Radcliffe, but the tenure is not stated.

⁴⁰ On 1 Feb. 1513-14; *Dep. Keeper's Rep.* xxxix, App. 558.

⁴¹ *Writ of Diem clausit extr.* issued 3 Sept. 1517; *Towneley MS.* CC. no.

A HISTORY OF LANCASHIRE

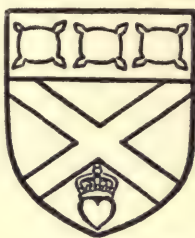
upon the family manors, in accordance with the settlement made by his uncle John, came into the hands of Robert Radcliffe, Lord Fitz Walter, created Viscount Fitz Walter in 1525 and Earl of Sussex in 1529.⁴² Radcliffe descended to his son Henry⁴³ and grandson Thomas, second and third earls, but the last-named, who died without surviving issue in 1583,⁴⁴ sold Radcliffe and the other Lancashire manors and lands. Radcliffe was in 1561 purchased from him by Richard Assheton, lord of the adjoining manor of Middleton,⁴⁵ and descended with the latter until 1765, when the Assheton estates were divided between the two daughters of Sir Ralph Assheton.⁴⁶ One of these, Eleanor, married Sir Thomas Egerton of Heaton, afterwards Lord Grey de Wilton, and the manor of Radcliffe appears to have been included in her share.⁴⁷ It has since descended with the Wilton estates, the present lord being Sir Frederick Johnstone, by demise of the Earl of Wilton.⁴⁸ A court-baron used to be held on the first Friday in April.⁴⁹

The ruins of Radcliffe Tower stand about 200 yds. south-west of the church and inclosed within a farmyard. The house was of timber construction, and seems to have consisted of a main block standing east and west, with a west wing, which may have been an addition to the original building, and a stone tower at the east. No authentic record of the plan of the building, however, remains, the chief source of information concerning the structure being the description of it given by Whitaker in his *History of Whalley*, together with a view of the north or principal front of the hall made in 1781.⁵⁰ This latter shows a two-storied house of timber and plaster with gabled roofs of the usual type. The stone-built wing, or tower, then in a state of ruin, is the only part of the building now remaining. The rest of the house was

allowed to fall into decay, and was taken down in the early part of the 19th century.

The position of Radcliffe Tower, like that of the church, is one naturally of defence, being built in the centre of a bend of the River Irwell. The ground within the bend is flat and low-lying, but the river itself, being on three sides of the house at a distance of only about quarter of a mile, would afford sufficient protection to account for the absence of a moat to the house. The present stone-built tower probably belongs to 1403, being erected in accordance with the licence recorded above, and had a contemporary timber building adjoining it on the west side. It is difficult to reconcile the provisions of the licence of 1403 with the existing remains, as it seems clear that there was no stone hall in connexion with this tower. Of the second tower nothing can be said, and if it was ever built, no trace or tradition of it remains.

The great hall, which was doubtless the building which left its roof-line on the ruined tower, occupied the east part of the main block, and according to Whitaker was 42 ft. 2 in. in length, and in one part 26 ft. and in another 28 ft. in width.⁵¹ It had an open-timbered roof supported by two massive principals, which are described by Whitaker as the 'most curious specimens of carved oak work I have ever seen.' They appear to have been, however, of a not unusual type. At the east end of the hall was a door, which still remains, opening into the basement of the tower, and higher up in the wall another door, also still in existence, which led into the chamber above. At the west end of the hall were the kitchen and servants' apartments, and in Whitaker's time there were still to be seen 'the remains of a doorway opening into what was once a staircase, and leading to a large chamber above the kitchen, the approach to which beneath was by a door of massy oak pointed at the top. The kitchen and apartment above stood at right angles to the top of the hall, and are separated from it by a wall of oak work. The chamber is 38 ft. long by 18 ft. 5 in., and has two massy arches of oak without mouldings, but an oaken cornice mould like those in the hall, the floor of thick oaken planks.' On the south side of the hall were the remains of a



JOHNSTONE, BARONET.
Argent a saltire sable, on a chief gules three cushions or, in base a man's heart ensigned with an imperial crown proper.

802. He held the manors, &c., as before; the heirs general were his four sisters named above, and the heir male was Robert Radcliffe, Lord Fitz Walter; Duchy of Lanc. Inq. p.m. iv, 8.

Lord Fitz Walter on succeeding found that many of the charters were in the hands of Thurstan Tyldesley, as executor of the John Radcliffe who died in 1513; but Thurstan professed his willingness to deliver them up, as soon as he was assured as to the heir; Duchy of Lanc. Plead. xix, R. 1.

⁴² The descent has been given in a preceding note. For this branch see G.E.C. *Complete Peerage*, iii, 371, 372; vii, 334-6. There are accounts of John Radcliffe, Lord Fitz Walter, and of the Earls of Sussex in *Dict. Nat. Biog.* Robert, Earl of Sussex, was Lord Lieutenant of Lancashire in 1537 and high steward of the Duchy in 1539 and 1540. He died in 1542, holding the manors of Radcliffe at Tower, Moston, and Crumpsall, and leaving a son and heir Henry, aged twenty-five and more; Chan. Inq. p.m. 66 (38), E. file 643 (18).

⁴³ He died 17 Feb. 1556-7; *ibid.*

⁴⁴ *Ibid.* His second wife, Frances

Sidney, survived him and bequeathed funds for the foundation of Sidney-Sussex College, Cambridge.

⁴⁵ Pal. of Lanc. Feet of F. bdl. 23, m. 3. The estate is described as the manor of Radcliffe, otherwise 'Radcliffe Tower,' with the appurtenances, and of 100 messuages, 100 cottages, 40 tofts, 4 water-mills, a fulling-mill, four dovescotes, 200 gardens, 2,000 acres of land, 1,000 acres of meadow, 2,000 acres of pasture, 100 acres of wood, 200 acres of marsh, 1,000 acres of furze and heath, and £10 rent in Radcliffe, Bolton, and Manchester, and the advowson of the church of Radcliffe. The sum named in the fine is 2,000 marks.

In 1564 Richard Assheton had to make a further arrangement with Richard Blunt and Margaret his wife regarding the manor of Radcliffe, he paying them £1,000; *ibid.* bdl. 26, m. 256. A deed between Richard Blunt and Gilbert Gerard concerning Radcliffe was enrolled in the Common Pleas, Easter, 1564.

The manor of Radcliffe or Radcliffe Tower was in 1582 included in a settlement of the Middleton estates made by Richard Assheton and Mary his wife;

Pal. of Lanc. Feet of F., bdl. 44, m. 73. Similar settlements were made later, down to 1721; Pal. of Lanc. Plea R. 512, m. 3. See also *Lancs. Inq. p.m.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), ii, 105-7.

⁴⁶ See the account of Middleton.

⁴⁷ In 1766 there was a settlement of a moiety of the manors of Middleton and Radcliffe upon Harbord Harbord and Mary his wife; Pal. of Lanc. Feet of F. bdl. 375, m. 153. This was followed in 1771 by a similar settlement of the other moiety upon Sir Thomas Egerton and Mary his wife; *ibid.* bdl. 385, m. 246. Shortly afterwards a division was arranged, Lord Grey de Wilton alone presenting to the rectory in 1784.

⁴⁸ See the account of Heaton in Prestwich.

⁴⁹ Baines, *Lancs.* (ed. 1836), iii, 7.

⁵⁰ Drawn by H. Wyatt, lithographed by J. Ford, Manchester, 1823.

⁵¹ His view of the interior, however (1801), exaggerates the length, but this defect of the drawing was afterwards remedied, and a view 'with the erroneous perspective corrected' published in the *Gent. Mag.* for July 1840.



RADCLIFFE TOWER FROM THE NORTH-WEST

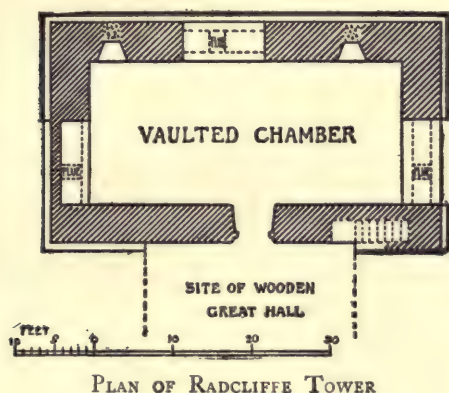


RADCLIFFE TOWER FROM THE SOUTH-WEST

square-headed window-frame in oak with Gothic tracery.

In 1833 the fabric, except the tower, was described as of 'brick inclosed in squares of wood,'⁵³ and the large chamber above the kitchen had been converted into two rooms. The building was then supported by 'substantial buttresses'; but where such supports were wanting the walls had fallen. The great hall was then used as a hayloft and cowshed. The ancient timber framework had apparently by that time been filled in with brick, and the whole structure was in a state of ruin and dilapidation. It had been taken down before 1844, and the materials, described as 'chiefly beams and planks of solid black oak,' used for building purposes.

The stone tower, the bottom part of which is still standing, is 50 ft. in length and 28 ft. in width. These measurements are external, the greater length



being from north to south. The walls are 5 ft. thick all round above the plinth, which has a projection of 12 in. The tower was probably of two stories, with an embattled parapet; but the upper part has now almost entirely disappeared, only portions of the walls above the level of the first floor being still *in situ*, the rest having crumbled away in comparatively recent years. The walls being quite exposed to the weather at the top this process of gradual disintegration of the structure is likely to continue. The lower room of the tower was originally covered by a semicircular barrel vault, the springing of which at each side may still be seen. Some portion of this vault was standing as late as 1844, when Samuel Bamford, who visited the tower in that year, described it as hanging by a single stone, and 'unless it be protected from further wanton outrage must soon share the fate of the hall.'⁵³ The spring of the vault is about 5 ft. from the ground, which would make the height of the apartment about 15 ft. It was lit at each end by a window high up in the wall, and on the east side by two smaller windows nearer the ground. The entrance on the west side is through a pointed doorway, 4 ft. wide, the jambs and head of which have a continuous double chamfer. The chief feature of this lower room of the tower, however, consists of three large arched openings about 10 ft. in width, one at each end and the other in the middle of the east wall opposite the entrance. They have an inner and outer arch, 15 in.

in thickness at the wall faces, with a space between of 2 ft. 6 in., from the centre of which a square flue is carried up in the thickness of the wall. The outer arch was built up on the outside, the plinth being carried across the blocking wall at the line of the springing, about 4 ft. 3 in. from the ground. From the evidence of the masonry this is part of the original work done at the time of building. The height to the top of the arch, which is pointed and built of voussoirs, is about 9 ft. It seems most reasonable to regard these openings as fireplaces, and that at the north end of the room is still in its original state. The other two have been opened out, and are now open archways, that in the south side forming the principal entrance to the tower, which is used for store purposes in connexion with the adjoining farm and roofed with wood. The east archway now gives access to a wooden shed built along that side of the tower. The north and south fireplaces are not in the middle of the end walls, but immediately against the west side of the building. The presence of three such fireplaces in so comparatively small an apartment would at first sight suggest that the room had been used as a kitchen, but this is unlikely if the tower were used, as it appears to have been, as the part of the house allotted to the family. The three square flues are still well preserved in the walls, the stones of that on the south side yet showing a calcined surface.

The room above was approached by a stone staircase in the thickness of the wall at the south end of the west wall, leading out of the great hall at a height of about 7 ft. 6 in. above the floor. The doorway to this staircase has a pointed head, and the wall is thickened to 6 ft. at this point to allow of room for the stairs. The steps are still in position, along with the sill of a small two-light window which lit the landing at their head. There is an ordinary fireplace opening on the first floor 7 ft. wide in the centre of the west wall.

The outer walls of the tower are constructed of heavy blocks of coursed stone on the north, south, and east sides, and for a distance of about 12 ft. on the north end of the west side. At this point the plinth stops, and the coursed masonry leaves off at the height of the sill of the doorway of the upper room. The point where the ashlar ceases marks the line of the front of the timber-built hall, the line of the roof of which may still be seen on the rough walling at the west side of the tower. On this side the centre portion of the wall yet stands nearly 30 ft. above the ground, though the end walls of the building are reduced to something like half that height. About midway in the height of the west wall, 15 ft. 3 in. from the ground, and formerly the end wall of the great hall, is a projecting string-course, which stops at either end at the line of the ancient roof.

In 1592 the Earl of Derby sent certain widows, who were recusants, to prison in the tower, it being 'withinland and in the hundred where the people are well affected.'⁵⁴

Junior branches of the local family occur from time to time. In 1357 Robert son of Adam de Radcliffe made a claim against Adam son of William de Radcliffe.⁵⁵

⁵³ Butterworth for Baines, *Lancs.*

⁵⁴ A woodcut in *The Pictorial History of Lanc.* 260 (1844), shows part of the

vault still standing. The stairs to the chamber were cut from solid blocks of oak; *Manch. Guard.* 1844 and 1888.

⁵⁵ *Cal. S.P. Dom.* 1591-4, p. 288. Mrs. Anne Houghton was one of them.

⁵⁶ *Duchy of Lanc. Assize R.* 5, m. 10 d.

A HISTORY OF LANCASHIRE

Robert Radcliffe had messuages and lands in Radcliffe and Sharples in 1589,⁵⁶ and a further estate in the same places was the subject of agreement between James Radcliffe and Robert Radcliffe the elder in 1595.⁵⁷ The elder and younger Robert were freeholders in 1600.⁵⁸ It was probably the younger Robert who died in 1617, holding messuages in Radcliffe of Sir Richard Assheton in socage by 12d. rent, and having other property in Manchester and Salford.⁵⁹ Edward Radcliffe, the son and heir, was twelve years of age, and was living in 1665, when a pedigree was recorded—Radcliffe of Radcliffe Bridge.⁶⁰

Alexander Radcliffe of Leigh, who recorded a pedigree at the same visitation, in 1680 purchased Edward Radcliffe's estate in Radcliffe, which his descendants continue to hold.⁶¹ The land-tax return of 1788 shows that Mr. Radcliffe paid about a thirtieth of the tax. Lord Grey de Wilton paid nearly half. The rest of the land was in small holdings.⁶²

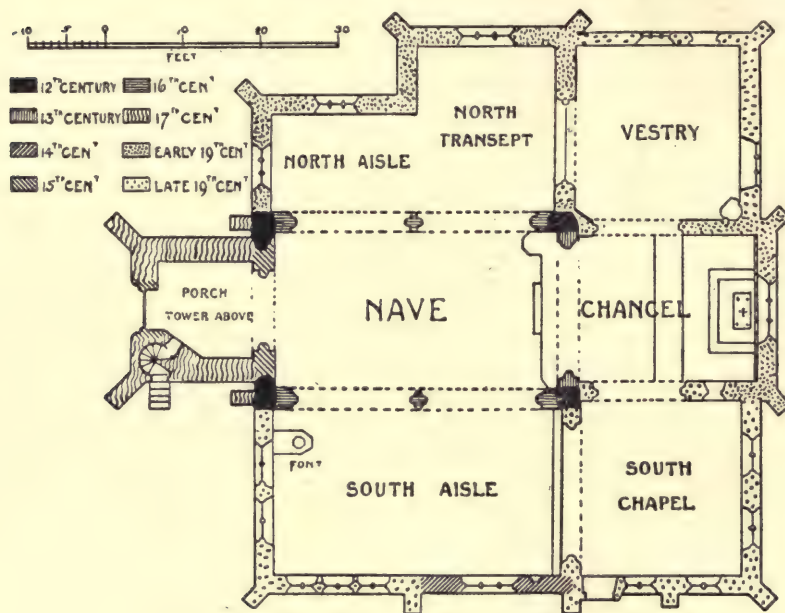
A few other families occur from time to time—Openshaw,⁶³ Wroe,⁶⁴ and Hardman.⁶⁵ In 1688 the principal inhabitants were Gervase Staynrod, Henry Coulborne, John Allen, and Roger Walker.⁶⁶

Land called Nickerhole in the south-west of the township was in the 16th century the subject of several disputes.⁶⁷

An Inclosure Act for Radcliffe and Ainsworth was passed in 1809, and an award made in 1812.⁶⁸

The church of *ST. BARTHOLO-CHURCH MEW*⁶⁹ stands at the east side of the town in the centre of a bend of the River Irwell, the ground between which and the church on the south side still remains open as field and pasture. The building consists of chancel 23 ft. by 19 ft., with vestry on the north side and chapel on the south, each 22 ft. 6 in. by 21 ft.; nave 36 ft. by 20 ft., north and south transepts each 21 ft. 6 in. by 18 ft., north aisle 12 ft. 6 in. wide, south aisle 21 ft. wide, and western tower 12 ft. 6 in. by 12 ft. All these measurements are internal.

A great deal of alteration and rebuilding, done in the 19th century, has made the whole of the outside of the church, with the exception of the tower, of modern date; but it still preserves to a large extent its ancient appearance. The history of this later work may be thus summarized: In 1817 the chancel and vestry were rebuilt; in 1846 the north transept was reconstructed, an organ chamber built on the north side of the chancel, the south porch removed, and a west door opened out in the tower; in 1870-3 the building underwent a very thorough restoration, when the clearstory was taken down and rebuilt and a new roof constructed, the south aisle



PLAN OF RADCLIFFE CHURCH

⁵⁶ Pal. of Lanc. Feet of F. bdle. 51, m. 125. ⁵⁷ Ibid. bdle. 57, m. 23.

⁵⁸ Misc. (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), i, 247.

⁵⁹ Lancs. Inq. p.m. (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), ii, 75. James Radcliffe of Sharples was one of the jurors.

⁶⁰ Dugdale, Visit. (Chet. Soc.), 239.

⁶¹ Richard Radcliffe of Leigh — s. Thomas — s. Alexander, d. 1646 — s. Alexander, d. 1700 — s. John, d. 1700 — s. John, Recorder of Liverpool, d. 1744 — s. Alexander, Recorder of Wigan, d. 1786 — s. John, d. 1799 — s. Thomas Hayward, d. 1829 — s. John, d. 1845 — dau. Frances, d. 1897. She married James Darlington and had several sons and daughters; information of Mr. R. D. Radcliffe.

⁶² Land Tax returns at Preston. This Radcliffe family is named in Baines, Lancs. (ed. 1836), iii, 7.

⁶³ James Openshaw appears to have sold lands in Radcliffe in 1558, and purchased others in 1565; Pal. of Lanc. Feet of F. bdle. 20, m. 69; 27, m. 115; Lancs. and Ches. Rec. (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), ii, 250.

John Openshaw, who died in 1638, held two messuages and lands in Radcliffe of Ralph Assheton of Middleton; John, his son and heir, was thirty-nine years of age; Towneley MS. C. 8, 13 (Chet. Lib.), 949.

⁶⁴ Richard Wroe was a freeholder in 1600; Misc. (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), i, 249. Dr. Richard Wroe, warden of Manchester, a benefactor of the poor of Radcliffe, was probably a descendant of this family, though said to have been born in Unsworth; his grandson will be found among the rectors.

⁶⁵ John and James Hardman had a dispute with Richard Assheton, lord of the manor, in 1600; Ducatus Lanc. (Rec. Com.), iii, 409. Roger Hardman of Radcliffe was a member of the Bury Classis in 1646.

⁶⁶ Hist. MSS. Com. Rep. xiv, App. iv, 196. The Allens and Walkers are later found among the landowners.

⁶⁷ John Harrison leased 'Niberhole' to Geoffrey Hulme, son of Roger, for sixty years, but afterwards expelled him and his family, whereupon Geoffrey in 1557 complained to the Chancellor of the

Duchy; Duchy of Lanc. Plead. xxxv, H. 4. A few years later James Harrison, as heir of his father John, claimed land from Geoffrey and John Hulme, who held by lease from the father; Ducatus Lanc. (Rec. Com.), ii, 243, 286. In 1602 John Harrison of Brightmet was the owner of 'Nytheroll,' and sold it to William Petto of Bury, as the latter alleged; but John Harrison, together with Henry Aspinall, Alice Harrison widow, and Elizabeth Hulme widow, having obtained divers charters, &c., would not allow him possession; Duchy of Lanc. Plead. ccvii, P. 4.

Henry Aspinall of Radcliffe died in 1620 holding a messuage and lands called 'Nicolhole' of Richard Assheton in socage, by 2s. rent; John, his son and heir, was forty years of age; Lancs. Inq. p.m. (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), ii, 208.

⁶⁸ Act 49 Geo. III, cap. 8. Copies of the award are preserved at the parish church and the County Offices, Preston.

⁶⁹ In 1459 the church was called 'St. Mary of Radcliffe'; Lich. Epis. Reg. xii, fol. 1b. 'St. Mary' has been readopted lately.

was enlarged, and a new chapel was added on the south of the chancel; in 1903 the north vestry was enlarged, the plaster stripped from the walls, and the interior refaced with Runcorn stone, the floor, which had been raised 19 in. in 1846, reduced to its original level, and the arches between the transepts and vestry and chapel reconstructed. Since then the outside wall of the south transept has been refaced in red sandstone and the tracery renewed. The exterior of the church is built of sandstone, with slated gabled roofs to all parts except the nave, the roof of which is of flat pitch and covered with lead. The clearstory, south aisle, and chapel are finished with square parapets, the north aisle, transept, and vestry having overhanging eaves.

The oldest details of the building are the piers supporting the chancel arch, which are of 13th-century date, but it is possible that the four angles of the nave may belong to an older church dating from the 12th century. The south wall of the south transept belongs to the 14th century, while the tower arch and west wall of the nave are probably a century later; the nave arcade is of 16th-century date, and the tower was rebuilt in 1665.

The original church may have been a rectangular 12th-century building covering the area of the present nave, with a small square-ended chancel. In the 13th century a new chancel, of which the western arch still remains, was built round the former one, and in the 14th century transepts were added to the nave, their length suggesting that the nave may by this time have had aisles. A tower may have been built towards the end of the 14th or beginning of the 15th century against the end of the original nave. In the early years of the 16th century the present nave arcades of two bays, with the clearstory, were erected, and the tower, as before stated, having apparently become insecure, was rebuilt in 1665, many of the old stones being used.

The chancel has an east window of three lights with modern 14th-century tracery, and an open arch on the north and south sides to the organ chamber and the south chapel respectively. The chancel arch is of two plain chamfered orders with a label of 13th-century masonry recently reset, and springs from half-round piers with a fillet on the face, the capitals of which have been renewed. The wall above the chancel arch is probably of 13th-century construction, and shows the line of the older roof, which strikes the side walls at the level of the crowns of the present nave arches.

The nave arcades are of two bays with pointed arches resting on responds, and central piers of 16th-century date consisting of engaged clustered shafts with coarsely-moulded capitals and bases, the arch mouldings being composed of two rounds and a hollow. Over each arcade is a clearstory of square-headed four-light windows, three on each side. The nave roof is modern, of flat pitch, but preserving the

features of the older one. It consists of four principals, one against the tower wall, and one close to the chancel arch, with moulded ridge and wall pieces and intermediate ribs in the panels. The corbels carrying the roof have figures of eight prophets, and the four central bosses are carved with (1) a ship, (2) the five wounds, (3) a dove, and (4) a hand.

The north transept, which is entirely rebuilt, has a pointed window of three lights with curious tracery of flowing type with an external label. It is apparently original, or at any rate not of recent reproduction; but the jambs and head of the window have been restored. The transept has diagonal angle buttresses of two stages, with gabled heads. The north aisle has a modern three-light square-headed window on the north with net tracery, and a similar flat-pointed window at the west end, also modern.

The south transept is now open to the church for its full depth both on the east and west sides, but its south wall is of 14th-century date, and has a three-light pointed window with peculiar tracery into which two human heads are introduced. The whole of this wall has been refaced on the outside with red



RADCLIFFE CHURCH : INTERIOR LOOKING EAST

sandstone, and the window tracery renewed. On the interior the wall retains its ancient facing, and there is a 14th-century piscina in the south-east corner.

The new south aisle replaces one about 10 ft. wide which was pulled down in the rebuilding of 1872, and had a south porch over its doorway. It is lighted at the west end by two two-light windows, and on the south side by three square-headed traceried windows of two lights each. Similar windows light the modern south chapel, and there is an external doorway at its south-west angle.

The tower, which has a vice in the south-west corner, was rebuilt in the 17th century, presumably carrying out more or less the style of the earlier tower. The internal arch is of 15th-century date, and consists of two plain chamfered orders, and the two-light west window appears to be old work retained in the rebuilding. Externally the tower has a rather stumpy appearance, and its three stages are unmarked by any horizontal line or string-course. It has diagonal buttresses of seven stages, with plain weatherings, and is finished with an embattled parapet with angle pinnacles, and a conical slated roof with a good 18th-

A HISTORY OF LANCASHIRE

century vane. In the top stage on the north, west, and south sides are three-light windows. Over the west door is an ornamental panel with the date 1665, and the arms of Beswick⁷⁰ inscribed RECTOR CAROLUS BESWICKE. The north side has a two-light square-headed window on the second stage, immediately above which is a stone inscribed EDWARD RATCLIFFE 1665, and on the south side of the tower is a stone bearing the name of Sir Ralph Assheton with the same date. The clock-dials on the north and west sides dated 1786 were replaced in 1908. The putlog holes are a very conspicuous feature.

The fittings are all modern, but at the west end are two oak seats incorporating portions of the 17th-century pulpit and reading desk. That on the south of the tower arch has five inlaid panels: (1) the date 1606 with the Assheton molet below, (2) the initials S. R. A. with the Assheton crest (a boar's head

L. S.

erased), (3) the Assheton molet with the letters P.

R. W.

(probably denoting Leonard Shaw and Robert Walk-

den, rectors during the 17th-century alterations), (4) the initials I. I. with a molet between, and (5) the letters T. H. I. M. probably the initials of churchwardens.

On the back of the seat on the north side are the initials R. C. B. and the date 1665, denoting Charles Beswick, rector, and the inscription, which probably ran along the upper part of the desk (now in two lines), 'All my words that I speak unto thee, receive into thine heart with thine ears. Ezekiel III Chap. 10 verse . . .' The font, which is early modern Gothic, has a canopy (dated 1858) raised by a chain pulley and cannon-ball weight. There is no ancient glass, but Baines, writing in 1833, notices in one of the north windows the arms of Radcliffe and the head of a queen. Another window on the north side had the head of a king, and one of the east windows had a boar's head in a shield, and in a window to the west was a painting of St. John the Evangelist with a chalice in his right hand and a palm in his left.⁷¹ All this glass has now disappeared.

Under the altar is an alabaster slab, now very much defaced, said to be that of James Radcliffe the builder of Radcliffe Tower, but probably that of the founder's grandson, the first of the line of Radcliffe of Langley.⁷² The figures of a knight and lady with the heads of their children below can still be traced, and two shields in the upper part, but the inscription is illegible. The slab had been lost when Baines wrote in 1833, but was recovered in the restorations of 1870-3. One of the shields has the arms of Radcliffe, and the other is defaced, but is said to have had those of Langley.⁷³

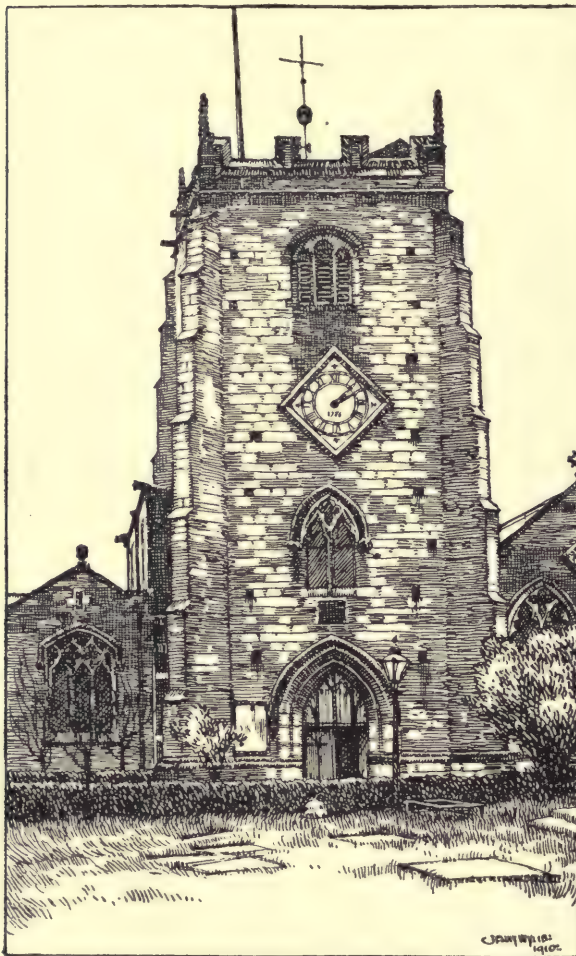
There are eight bells; six of these are by Rudhall, but were recast in 1861, and two more added. There is a tradition that they came from Middleton.

The plate consists of a chalice and flagon of 1754, with the maker's mark T. W.; and a Birmingham paten of 1898 and cruet of 1906. There is also a chalice similar in design to the first made by Oliver and Botsford of Manchester, and two silver-plated patens the gift of Anne Bealey, 1868.

The registers begin in 1559.⁷⁴ The tithe maps are kept in the vestry.

The church existed in the 12th century, and is first mentioned in 1202, when William de Radcliffe, lord of the manor, secured from Roger de Middleton an acknowledgement of his right to present.⁷⁵ From this time the advowson appears to have descended with the manor. The only dispute recorded took place in 1514, when the feoffees of John Radcliffe were hindered in their right, probably because the wardship of the heir had been granted to Queen Katherine.⁷⁶

The income being very small the benefice was omitted in the taxation of 1291, but fifty years later the value of the ninth of the sheaves, wool, &c., was returned as 33s. 4d.⁷⁷ In 1534 the gross value was found to be £21 2s. 4d., of which 2s. was



RADCLIFFE CHURCH : FROM THE WEST

⁷⁰ Gules three bezants, a fesse in chief or.

⁷¹ A drawing of this is given in Baines, op. cit. (1836), iii, 8; (ed. 1889) ii, 429.

⁷² See note in Baines, *Lancs.* (1889), ii, 429.

⁷³ There is an illustration of the slab in Baines, *Lancs.* (1836), iii, 9; (1889) ii,

429. Dr. Whitaker gave what he could decipher of the inscription as 'Orate pro aia. Jacobi de Radcliff . . . qu . . . p'pietur Deus.'

⁷⁴ For extracts see W. Nicholls, *Hist. and Trad. of Radcliffe*, 92-106.

⁷⁵ *Final Conc.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), i, 10. An assize of 'last presen-

tation' had been summoned, so that it would appear at least one rector had been appointed. On the other hand, as the parish and manor boundaries coincide, it is unlikely that the former is older than the latter.

⁷⁶ Pal. of Lanc. Plea R. 117, m. 7.

⁷⁷ *Inq. Non.* (Rec. Com.), 39.

paid to the archdeacon for synodals and procurations.⁷⁸ The Commonwealth Commissioners in 1650 found the income to be about £50 a year; in addition Colonel Assheton, lord of the manor and patron, had demesne lands worth £150 a year for which he paid no tithe.⁷⁹

At the beginning of the next century the value had risen to £90, of which more than a third was the rent of the glebe.⁸⁰ It is now £950 a year;⁸¹ Sir Frederick Johnstone, by purchase from the Earl of Wilton, is at present the patron.

The following is a list of the rectors:—

Institution	Name	Patron	Cause of Vacancy
c. 1240 . . .	Robert ⁸²	—	—
oc. 1292 . . .	John de Hulton ⁸³	—	—
14 June 1310 .	Richard de Radcliffe ⁸⁴	William de Radcliffe . . .	d. J. de Hulton
14 Jan. 1318–19	Roger de Freckleton ⁸⁵	” ” . . .	exc. R. de Radcliffe
18 May 1322 .	Thomas de Clipston ⁸⁶	” ” . . .	d. R. de Freckleton
21 Jan. 1363–4	Robert de Newton ⁸⁷	Richard de Radcliffe . . .	d. T. de Clipston
1 Apr. 1367 .	Alexander de Pilkington ⁸⁸	—	d. R. de Newton
18 Feb. 1367–8	Richard de Radcliffe ⁸⁹	Richard de Radcliffe . . .	res. A. de Pilkington
oc. 1374 . . .	Richard de Clipston ⁹⁰	—	—
—	John Fitheler ⁹¹	—	—
13 Nov. 1389 .	Roger de Lache ⁹²	James de Radcliffe . . .	exc. with J. Fitheler
9 Mar. 1407–8	Christopher Walker ⁹³	” ” . . .	d. R. de Lache
31 Jan. 1437–8	Richard Forth ⁹⁴	Richard Radcliffe . . .	—
23 May 1459 .	Oliver Smethurst ⁹⁵	James Radcliffe . . .	d. R. Forth
6 Aug. 1481 .	John Bendelouse ⁹⁶	John Radcliffe . . .	res. O. Smethurst
23 Feb. 1483–4	Thomas Blakelowe ⁹⁷	” ” . . .	d. J. Bendelouse
18 July 1486 .	Hugh Radcliffe ⁹⁸	Richard Radcliffe . . .	d. T. Blakelowe
7 Dec. 1496 .	Roger Longworth ⁹⁹	” ” . . .	d. H. Radcliffe
? 1514 . . .	Richard Beswick ¹⁰⁰	—	—
14 Nov. 1534 .	Thomas Mawdsley ¹⁰¹	Earl of Sussex . . .	d. R. Beswick
4 Apr. 1538 .	Robert Ashton ¹⁰²	” ” . . .	res. T. Mawdsley
— 1559 . . .	John Ashton ¹⁰³	—	—
4 Feb. 1583–4	Leonard Shaw ¹⁰⁴	Richard Assheton . . .	d. Joh. Ashton

⁷⁸ *Valor Eccl.* (Rec. Com.), v, 226. The total was made up of the value of the glebe-land, 40s.; tithe of grain, £8 10s.; tithe of lambs, &c., linseed and hemp, and Easter roll, 52s. 4d.; oblations, £8.

⁷⁹ *Commonwealth Ch. Surv.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), 29. The glebe-lands were worth £20 a year; rents, 30s.; tithes, £28 10s. There was no need of another church, but part of Pilkington might be joined to the parish, as a number of the inhabitants used to attend Radcliffe Church.

⁸⁰ Gastrell, *Notitia Cestr.* (Chet. Soc.), ii, 158. The glebe, 24 acres, let for £33, and ten cottages brought in 31s. 8d. There were three churchwardens and two assistants; the retiring churchwardens used to nominate six for the following year, of whom the rector chose one and the parishioners two.

⁸¹ *Manch. Dioc. Cal.*

⁸² Robert, rector of Radcliffe, attested a Lacy charter printed by Whitaker, *Walley*, ii, 226, but it may not be the Lancashire parish.

⁸³ John de Hulton, rector of Radcliffe, attested a family charter in 1292; *Hulton Ped.* 2. In 1298 was cited a quitclaim by John son of David de Hulton, rector of Radcliffe, to his brother Richard; *De Banco R.* 125, m. 110 d.

⁸⁴ Lich. Epis. Reg. i, 8, fol. 58; the bishop granted him ‘the custody of the sequestration’ on 8 May. The previous rector died on the eve of Palm Sunday. The new rector was an acolyte; he was ordained subdeacon early in the following year, and deacon in 1315; *ibid.* i, fol. 114, 123.

⁸⁵ He exchanged Bury for Radcliffe with Richard de Radcliffe; *ibid.* i, fol. 86.

⁸⁶ *Ibid.* ii, fol. 99; the new rector was a priest.

⁸⁷ *Ibid.* iv, fol. 81 b; he is called ‘chaplain.’ He died on the Monday after St. Gregory, 1366–7.

⁸⁸ *Ibid.* iv, fol. 83; ‘son of Thomas de Pilkington; having the first clerical tonsure.’ In the following January the Bishop of Lichfield granted letters dimissory to Alexander de Pilkington, acolyte, rector of Radcliffe, for his promotion to all holy orders; *ibid.* v, fol. 186. Alexander resigned a few days afterwards.

⁸⁹ *Ibid.* iv, fol. 83; he was a priest.

⁹⁰ He may be the same as Richard de Radcliffe. He was rector in 1374, and one of the feoffees of Ralph de Langton; *De Banco R.* 456, m. 243; *Dep. Keeper’s Rep.* xxxiii, App. 6.

⁹¹ He became vicar of Rochdale, and died in 1402.

⁹² Lich. Epis. Reg. vi, fol. 54; here called Roger son of William de Manchester, but elsewhere Roger de Lache. He had been vicar of Rochdale since 1369. His will, dated 28 February 1407–8, and proved a year later, is printed in *Various Coll.* (Hist. MSS. Com.), ii, 16; he desired to be buried at Radcliffe, and in addition to legacies to friends, he left bequests to the churches of Radcliffe, Rochdale, Saddleworth, and Manchester, and to Upholland Priory. His books included *Stimulus Conscientie*, *Vite Patrum*, Homilies, the Breviaries, an *Ordinale*, and a *Manuale*.

⁹³ Lich. Epis. Reg. vii, fol. 96 b; a ‘chaplain.’

⁹⁴ *Ibid.* ix, fol. 23 b; a priest.

⁹⁵ *Ibid.* xii, fol. 1 b; a chaplain.

⁹⁶ *Ibid.* fol. 113 b; a chaplain. He granted an annual pension to his predecessor for life; *ibid.* fol. 114.

⁹⁷ *Ibid.* fol. 116 b.

⁹⁸ *Ibid.* fol. 120 b.

⁹⁹ *Ibid.* xiii, fol. 230; a priest. He died in or before 1514, when the above-recorded dispute as to the advowson occurred; *Pal. of Lanc. Plea R.* 117, m. 7.

The succession of rectors is given in the *Cockey Moor Examinations* (Chet. Soc. Misc.), 10.

¹⁰⁰ He may have succeeded Longworth in 1514. His will is printed in Piccope, *Wills* (Chet. Soc.), ii, 144; he made a number of bequests to Middleton Church, but none to Radcliffe; his father, Roger Beswick, is named as executor, together with John Cowope his brother-in-law, and Edward and Ralph his brothers.

¹⁰¹ Lich. Epis. Reg. xiii–xiv, fol. 34. He was chantry priest at Middleton. His predecessor left him, among other priests, 16d. to say dirge and mass and pray for his soul. His own will, dated 1554, is printed in Raines’ *Chant.* i, 124; he left to Radcliffe Church a vestment of baudekin and flowers. He may have been put into Radcliffe until his successor was old enough to be instituted.

¹⁰² Lich. Epis. Reg. xiii–xiv, fol. 36 b; an acolyte. He became rector of Middleton in 1541, and is supposed to have resigned in 1559.

¹⁰³ Also rector of Middleton, compounding for first-fruits for both on 29 Nov. 1559; *Lancs. and Ches. Rec.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), ii, 409. He was buried at Middleton 9 Oct. 1584.

¹⁰⁴ Act Bks. at Chester. Shaw compounded for first-fruits 12 Mar. 1584–5; *Lancs. and Ches. Rec.* ii, 410. He contributed to the clerical subsidies in 1620, 1622, and 1624; *Misc.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), i, 54, 66, 80. There is an unsatisfactory notice of him in *Chet. Misc.* (Chet. Soc.), v. He married Mary daughter of Peter Heywood; O. Heywood, *Diaries*, i, 116.

A HISTORY OF LANCASHIRE

Institution	Name	Patron	Cause of Vacancy
24 May 1624 .	Robert Walkden ¹⁰⁵	Robert Holt, &c.	d. Leon. Shaw
4 Feb. 1637-8 .	Peter Shaw, ¹⁰⁶ M.A.	Ralph Assheton	d. R. Walkden
c. 1644 .	Thomas Pyke, ¹⁰⁷ B.A.	" "	—
27 Oct. 1662 .	Charles Beswick ¹⁰⁸	Sir Ralph Assheton	exp. T. Pyke
8 June 1698 .	Charles Pinkney, ¹⁰⁹ B.A.	" "	d. C. Beswick
23 Jan. 1698-9 .	Roger Dale ¹¹⁰	" "	depr. C. Pinkney
5 Oct. 1716 .	Edward King, ¹¹¹ M.A.	" "	d. Roger Dale
18 Mar. 1719 .	Henry Lister, ¹¹² M.A.	" "	d. E. King
14 July 1724 .	William Lawson, ¹¹³ B.A.	" "	d. H. Lister
6 Apr. 1757 .	Richard Assheton, ¹¹⁴ M.A.	" "	d. W. Lawson
15 Oct. 1757 .	Richard Wroe (Walton), ¹¹⁵ M.A.	" "	res. R. Assheton
1 Oct. 1784 .	Thomas Foxley, ¹¹⁶ M.A.	Lord Grey de Wilton	res. R. Wroe Walt
1 Feb. 1839 .	Nathaniel Milne, ¹¹⁷ M.A.	Earl of Wilton	d. T. Foxley
— 1867 .	Henry Arthur Starkie, ¹¹⁸ M.A.	" "	res. N. Milne
26 June 1896 .	Stanley Swinburne, ¹¹⁹ M.A.	" "	res. H. A. Starkie

As the benefice was of small value and the people few, it is probable that even before the Reformation the clerical staff consisted of the rector and his curate only.¹²⁰ There was no endowed chantry. Little is known of the rectors, but some of them may have been pluralists. The church does not seem to have been very well furnished in 1552.¹²¹ About this time

the rectors of Radcliffe were also rectors of Middleton,¹²² but there seems usually to have been a resident curate. The later resident rectors seem to have managed without a curate.¹²³ As at Middleton a new rector, a Protestant, appears in 1559, but the reason is not ascertained.¹²⁴ The later history has been uneventful, with the exception of the Commonwealth

¹⁰⁵ Compounded for first-fruits 25 May 1624. The institutions from this time are printed in *Lancs. and Ches. Antiq. Notes*, from the Inst. Bks. P.R.O. The patrons in 1624 were Robert Holt, John Greenhalgh, and Robert Heywood, by grant of Sir Richard Assheton; the Earl of Nottingham was impropiator. There must be some error in the last statement.

Robert Walkden was schoolmaster at Middleton in 1599. He contributed ship-money, &c., in 1634, and later; *Misc.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), i, 95, 112.

¹⁰⁶ The Church P. at Chester begin here. Compounded for first-fruits 9 Mar. 1637-8. He was of Trinity Hall and Magdalene College, Cambridge; Cooper, *Athen. Cantab.* ii, 493.

There is a very unfavourable account of him, alike as to character and conduct, by Canon Raines in *Manch. Fellows* (Chet. Soc.), ii, 135-7. He was fellow from 1634 till 1645, when the chapter was dissolved by Parliament. Nothing is known of his subsequent career.

¹⁰⁷ Possibly of New Inn Hall, Oxford, B.A., 1634; Foster, *Alumni*. In 1650 it was recorded that 'about six years ago' Ralph Assheton of Middleton, patron, had bestowed the parsonage of Radcliffe, 'with the benefices and appurtenances thereunto belonging,' on Mr. Thomas Pyke, B.A., who was 'a godly preaching minister, well qualified in life and conversation'; *Commonwealth Ch. Surv.* 29. He was a member of the Bury Classis from its formation in 1647. The first-fruits, however, were not paid till 31 Jan. 1652; *Lancs. and Ches. Rec.* ii, 414. He signed the 'Harmonious Consent' of 1648.

After his expulsion from the rectory in 1662 he continued to minister to Non-conformist congregations in the neighbourhood until his death in 1672; Nightingale, *Lancs. Nonconf.* iii, 216. See also *Manch. Classis* (Chet. Soc.), iii, 444; *Bury Classis*, ii, 251, and *passim*. 'Good Mr. Pyke' is mentioned in O. Heywood's *Diaries*.

¹⁰⁸ He had been ordained deacon and priest on 13 Dec. 1656 by the Bishop of

Ardfert and Aghadoe, and must therefore have been an episcopalian on principle. Before his presentation to Radcliffe he had received the Archbishop of York's licence to preach in the province; Stratford's *Visit. List*, 1691. He was, however, found 'conformable' in 1689; *Hist. MSS. Com. Rep.* xiv, App. iv, 230. See Raines, *Byrom Ped.* (Chet. Soc.). He rebuilt the tower and did other reparation in the church.

In 1665 he made 'bitter complaints' to the justices regarding 'conventicles,' but they 'put him off'; Oliver Heywood, *Diaries*, i, 197. He was suspended by the bishop in 1671, for, though 'a scholar and no mean poet,' he was 'a dissipated and immoral man'; Raines *MSS.* (Chet. Lib.), iv, 203. He was again in trouble in 1685, sentence of deprivation being pronounced; Church P. at Chester.

Administration of his effects was granted in 1703.

¹⁰⁹ Of Christ's College, Cambridge, B.A. 1683.

¹¹⁰ In 1691 Roger Dale was curate of Northenden; he had been curate of Denton; Booker, *Denton*, 88. Administration of his effects was granted in 1716; see Earwaker, *East Ches.* i, 418.

¹¹¹ As B.A. of Trinity College, Dublin, he was admitted a pensioner of St. John's College, Cambridge, in 1715; M.A. Cambridge, same year; *Admissions St. John's C.* ii, 220. There is a monument to him in the church.

¹¹² Educated at University College, Oxford, M.A. 1718; Foster, *Alumni*. He was buried at Radcliffe 21 June 1724.

¹¹³ Educated at Brasenose College, Oxford; B.A. 1711. He bequeathed £10 to the poor. His will shows that he had a brother Richard, vicar of Bosham, Sussex; Mr. W. F. Irvine's note.

¹¹⁴ Resigned this benefice for Middleton; see the account of the rectors of that parish.

¹¹⁵ Of Brasenose College, Oxford; M.A. 1725; Foster, *Alumni*. Only son of Thomas Wroe, fellow of Manchester, and grandson of Richard Wroe, warden of Manchester. He succeeded in 1784 to Marsden Hall, Whalley, and resigned his

benefice; see *Wardens of Manch.* (Chet. Soc.), ii, 155. In 1763 he wrote as follows to George Kenyon: 'My friend Smethurst plays his old game; he has sowed his grain in so many different fields that he has in some of them only nine riders—a rider is ten sheaves—in others nineteen, and so on. Another litigious fellow has bound up all his oats into nine large riders. They will say corn has usually been set up in riders in this county; but if I do not gather it of these people in the sheaf I am precluded from receiving tithe'; *Hist. MSS. Com. Rep.* xiv, App. iv, 499.

¹¹⁶ Son of Thomas Foxley, fellow of Manchester. Educated at Manchester Grammar School and Brasenose College, Oxford; M.A. 1780. He also held the curacy of Chowbent in Leigh and the vicarage of Batley, Yorkshire; Foster, *Alumni*. He resided at Unsworth. In 1824 the parsonage at Radcliffe was occupied by the Rev. Thomas Parkinson, who had a school there.

¹¹⁷ Educated at St. John's College, Cambridge; M.A. 1835. He restored the church, adding the north transept. He died at Leamington in 1892.

¹¹⁸ Educated at Trinity Hall, Cambridge. M.A. 1869. Vicar of Padiham 1863 to 1865; and of Stainforth 1865 to 1867.

¹¹⁹ Educated at Worcester College, Oxford; M.A. 1883. Vicar of St. Margaret's, Prestwich, 1885 to 1891; rector of St. John's, Broughton, Manchester, 1891.

¹²⁰ The *Clergy List* of 1541-2 (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), and the *Visit. Lists* 1548 to 1565 mention only a curate in addition to the rector.

¹²¹ *Ch. Gds.* (Chet. Soc.), 18. There were three sets of vestments, three bells, two hand-bells, &c.

¹²² From 1547 to 1584.

¹²³ E.g. there was no assistant minister in 1650. There was one in 1620; *Misc.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), i, 54.

¹²⁴ The Visitation List names Laurence Pilkington as curate in 1563, while in 1565 the rector was at Durham, so that John Ashton appears to have been of the extremer sort of Protestants

period; at the beginning of this the rector, Peter Shaw, disappeared; at the end of it his successor, Thomas Pyke, was ejected.

There was a school of some kind in the 17th century, for the schoolmasters are mentioned.¹²⁵

During the last century a number of places of worship were erected to accommodate the increasing population. For the Established worship St. Thomas's, Radcliffe Bridge, was built in 1819 and rebuilt in 1864,¹²⁶ and St. Andrew's, Black Lane, in 1877;¹²⁷ the patronage of the first is now vested, like that of the parish church, in Sir F. Johnstone, and that of the second in the rector of Radcliffe.

The Wesleyans,¹²⁸ Primitive Methodists, and Metho-

dist New Connexion have chapels. The Congregationalists have a chapel, built in 1872.¹²⁹ The Baptist chapel dates from 1880.

The Society of Friends has a meeting-place, erected in 1892.¹³⁰

The Roman Catholic church of St. Mary and St. Philip Neri was built in 1894.¹³¹

The principal charity is that *CHARITIES* founded by James Walsh Howarth in 1886; he bequeathed £3,000, partly for church purposes, but as to half for the benefit of the poor.¹³² The poor also receive £7 from the benefaction of John Guest,¹³³ and the highways have 15s. from a quarry allotment.¹³⁴ Some older gifts have been lost.¹³⁵

PRESTWICH WITH OLDHAM¹

I.
PRESTWICH
GREAT HEATON

LITTLE HEATON
ALKRINGTON
TONGE

PILKINGTON
II.
OLDHAM

CROMPTON
ROYTON
CHADDERTON

This large parish, stretching for 13 miles from east to west, was probably in earlier times still larger, as the receipt of tithes from part of Tottington in Bury and the claim to church land in Radcliffe suggest that Bury and Radcliffe, and therefore Middleton also, were at one period under the care of the priest or colony of priests who gave a name to Prestwich. Not only did the three parishes just named become independent, but Oldham also, though remaining nominally a chapelry to the present day, early secured a practical independence for the eastern part of the parish.² Oldham Church is 7 miles from the parish church. The area of the whole is 22,022½ acres, including Prestwich 9,983 acres, and Oldham 12,039½. The geology of the entire parish is represented by the Coal Measures, and on the eastward side of a line drawn from High Crompton to Green-

acres, of the Lower Coal Measures or Gannister Beds.

The Roman road from Manchester to Ribchester passed through Prestwich and Pilkington; that from Manchester to York passed through the southern part of Oldham, where Roman coins have been found.³

The parish has no united history. In the western portion the Pilkingtons ranked among the great families of the county, until their adherence to Richard III and the Yorkist side brought about their overthrow. The other manorial families were either non-resident or of only local importance.

Though the Elizabethan reformation found the rector of Prestwich at first reluctantly compliant and then an avowed opponent, there is little evidence of opposition to the change of religion; recusants were few, and the district soon became strongly Puritan.

¹²⁵ 'Dr. Bon (?)' in 1639; *Misc.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), i, 125. Abraham Mather was licensed in 1662, and remained till his death in 1699; Stratford's Visit. List, 1691. There was no permanent endowment; Gastrell, *Notitia*, ii, 160.

¹²⁶ A district was assigned to it in 1839; *Lond. Gaz.* 5 July 1839. The old church was 'on the model of an eastern pagoda'; Baines, *Lancs.* (ed. 1836), iii, 10.

¹²⁷ A district was assigned in 1878; *Lond. Gaz.* 24 May.

¹²⁸ The Wesleyan Chapel, Radcliffe Close, erected about 1800, benefited under the will of Richard Bealey, conditionally on 'the usual morning prayers of the Church of England' being read; *End. Char. Rep.* 1901, p. 4. St. Paul's Wesleyan Chapel, Black Lane, commenced in hired rooms in 1881; church built 1901.

¹²⁹ Preaching had begun in 1838, but the present church represents a secession from Stand Chapel in 1847; a school-room was opened the following year and a church formed in 1849; Nightingale, *Lancs. Nonconf.* iii, 233-7.

¹³⁰ Information of Mr. Robert Muschamp, who states that the first meeting of the Society of Friends at Radcliffe began in 1676; the present one began

in 1886. In 1689 there was a meeting at John Townson's house in Radcliffe; *Hist. MSS. Com. Rep.* xiv, App. iv, 230.

¹³¹ The first chapel was opened in 1865, the mission being served from Ramsbottom. A second chapel was opened in 1878; Kelly, *Engl. Cath. Missions*, 326.

¹³² The account of the charities is from the *Endowed Charities Report* for Radcliffe, 1901; in it is reprinted the report of 1828. Mr. Howarth's other gifts were £1,500 for the choir and £500 for the Sunday school treat. The income of the gift to the poor is called the Aged Poor Fund, and is distributed by the churchwardens.

¹³³ An estate in Buersill and Castleton was left in 1653 by John Guest for the benefit of the poor of Radcliffe and Middleton. A moiety of the net income, now £6 14s., is paid to the rector of Radcliffe, who gives £2 each to the vicars of St. Thomas's and St. Andrew's, and pays the residue to the poor fund of the parish church. Formerly the income was disposed of, according to the testator's wish, in a distribution of linen to the poor, and this course is closely followed by the vicar of St. Andrew's, who gives flannel.

¹³⁴ At the inclosure made in 1812 an acre of land was appropriated from the common for a public stone quarry for the repair of the roads. The suitable material has long been exhausted, and the land is let at £8 5s. a year, the district council as the highway authority claiming it.

¹³⁵ Charities founded by Nicholas Gaskell and by William Brown at the beginning of the 18th century are mentioned by Bishop Gastrell in 1718; *Notitia*, ii, 160.

Dr. Wroe in 1718 gave £10 to the poor, the income to be distributed on Christmas Day, and William Lawson, rector, in 1757 bequeathed a further sum. In 1828 it was supposed that the capital had been expended in improvements of the Guest estate, £1 of the income from this having for long been treated separately, but the charities are now regarded as lost. In 1798 William Yates left £5 to augment the Christmas charity; it was lent to Mrs. Bealey of Worth, who in 1828 paid 5s. a year, but her representatives had discontinued the payment before 1862.

¹ For parish map see Radcliffe.

² In the *Charity Rep.* of 1826 Oldham is treated as a separate parish.

³ Watkin, *Rom. Lancs.*

A HISTORY OF LANCASHIRE

Nevertheless, it is one of the few parishes in which any resistance was made, with a show of popular support, to the abolition of the Prayer Book and Episcopacy; but even this resistance seems to have been due less to principle than to a strong antipathy to the domination of the Manchester Classis. In 1662 the rector complied, but the curate of Oldham was expelled. The chapels at Stand and Greenacres bear testimony to the existence of convinced Non-conformists, as does also the Quaker meeting-house at Royton.⁴

The Young Pretender's march through the district has left a trace in the story of the arrest of two of his officers in Prestwich.⁵ Volunteers were raised in 1779 and 1803, and again in 1859.⁶

Under the Redistribution Act of 1885 Prestwich gives a name to one of the Parliamentary divisions of south-east Lancashire, returning one member.

The Prestwich part of the parish remained comparatively rural till recently; but some sections have now become manufacturing, and others have practically merged in Manchester. The Oldham part, on the other hand, early felt the manufacturing impulse, and has steadily gone on increasing its mines and mills, till it has become the predominant partner. The following is the present apportionment of agricultural land in the whole parish: Arable land, 3,683 acres; permanent grass, 11,395; woods and plantations, 367. The details are thus given⁷ :—

	Arable Acres.	Grass Acres.	Woods, &c. Acres.
Prestwich . .	506	1,697	125
Alkrington . .	113	556	10
Tonge . . .	10	139	—
Outwood . .	580	886	213
Unsworth . .	679	708	16
Unsworth . .	1,207	294	2
Whitefield . .	431	622	1
Oldham . . .	3	1,562	—
Crompton . .	3	2,002	—
Royton . . .	52	574	—
Royton . . .	11	748	—
Chadderton .	88	1,607	—

For the County Lay of 1624 Prestwich proper was divided into two parts, each paying equally, so that Prestwich and Pilkington each paid £2 12s. 1½d. when the hundred paid £100. Oldham township paid £1 18s. 8d., Royton 19s. 4d., Chadderton and Crompton £1 9s. each, or a fourth part of the contribution from Oldham, which for this purpose was considered a parish.⁸ To the more ancient fifteenth, out of £41 14s. 4d. for the hundred, Prestwich contributed 18s., Pilkington 23s., Oldham 17s., Royton 11s. 4d., Crompton 13s., and Chadderton 21s. 8d.⁹

The church of *ST. MARY*¹⁰ is situated **CHURCH** on the south-west side of the town on an eminence overlooking the valley of

the Irwell, set in very picturesque surroundings. It consists of a chancel with organ chamber and quire vestry on the north, and a chapel on the south side, nave with north and south aisles, each with a chapel at its east end, north and south porches, and west tower. The main body of the church belongs to the 16th century, and the tower to the 15th, while the whole of the east end, including the chapels at the end of the aisles, is modern.

The tower presumably belongs to a 15th-century building whose east wall was about where the chancel arch now is, and whose width was the same as at present. This 15th-century church had a chancel about 34 ft. long occupying the space of the two eastern bays of the present nave, and a nave of three bays, the lines of the arcade of which are still retained. The aisles were probably of the present width, but whether the chapels at their east ends belonged to this building in the first instance it is impossible to say. The aisles probably overlapped the chancel for about 15 ft., and may have been extended and carried further eastward when the chantries were founded. At some time in the first half of the 16th century the chancel, both arcades of the nave, and the north and south aisles were rebuilt, destroying all traces of the former work. The 16th-century church also had a south porch and a low vestry east of the chancel. There is no record as to when this rebuilding took place, and the work itself is of a very plain description, and does not help much in fixing a date. At first sight the clearstory seems to be of later date than the arcade, but the evidence of the building appears to indicate that they were built at the same period. The rebuilding left the church pretty much as it was till the restorations and additions of the 19th century, with chapels the full length of the chancel on each side, and 6 ft. wider than the north and south aisles. The chancel had a traceried window of seven lights under a pointed head, possibly belonging to the 15th-century church. The east vestry was a low building whose roof was below the sill of the chancel window and was entered from the church, as at Sefton, by a door on the south side of the altar. The south porch was rebuilt in 1756, and at the same time, according to an inscription upon the porch, the church 'was raised.' This probably refers to the raising of the aisle walls in order to obtain light for the galleries, though there is only record of one gallery being erected at that time, and that probably in the north chapel.¹¹ The line of the original aisle roofs may still be seen outside at the west end. In 1782 there were some repairs done to the tower, which was reported to be decaying fast. In 1803 the east vestry was rebuilt, but it seems to have been destroyed about 1860 in order to effect a lengthening of the chancel on its site, having a vestry on the north side. In the same year the body of the church was repewed, and in 1872 a new chapel (the

⁴ See also the account of Shaw Chapel.

⁵ See p. 81 of the *Hist. and Traditions of Prestwich* (1905), by the Rev. W. Nicholls, Congregational Minister, who has also written accounts of Ravenstone-dale and Mallerstang Forest.

⁶ *Ibid.* 59–66.

⁷ Inf. from Bd. of Agric. (1905).

⁸ Gregson, *Fragments* (ed. Harland), 15, 22.

⁹ *Ibid.* 18.

¹⁰ The supposed dedication to St. Bar-

tholomew was an error which arose in the 18th century; Booker, *Mem. of the Ch. in Prestwich*, 54; Nicholls, *op. cit.* 67.

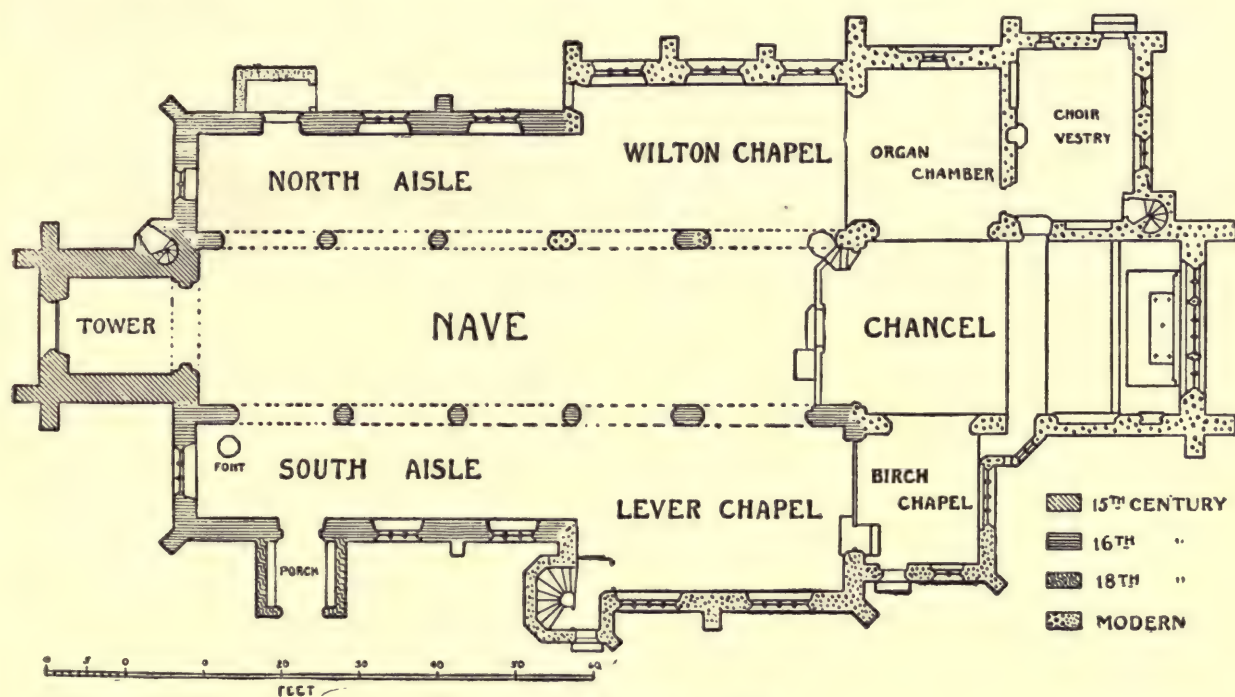
¹¹ 1756; faculty granted to Sir Thomas Grey Egerton to erect a gallery 26 ft. by 14 ft. at his own expense. 1791; faculty granted to twelve parishioners for erecting a gallery on the north side of the church 28 ft. front by 15 ft. at east and 12 ft. at west end, and to raise the roof

of the north aisle. 1800; faculty granted to Rev. J. Lyon and others who had erected [the previous year] a south-west gallery 16 ft. by 12 ft. to let and sell same, *Cburchwardens' Accts.* (Booker). None of these measurements fits the present galleries. The gallery in the north (Wilton) chapel was taken down when the chapel was rebuilt. The west gallery, erected in 1760, was taken down in 1882.

Birch chapel) was built south of the extended chancel and at the east end of the south (Lever) chapel, which was rebuilt two years later. In 1882-3 the tower was underpinned and repaired, the roof of the nave restored, and new roofs put on the north and south aisles, and in 1888-9 the Wilton (north) chapel was rebuilt, and a chancel with organ chamber and vestry on the north side erected, eastward of the line of the original church.¹²

The building is constructed of red sandstone, which has been considerably renewed from time to time, and the roofs are covered with stone slates. Those of the original structure, including the aisles, have overhanging eaves, but the north and south chapels had straight parapets, and these have been retained in the rebuilding, and are also used in the new chancel and buildings north of it. The chancel has a clearstory, and the roof is slightly higher than that of the nave. The organ-chamber on the north is of the full height

orders, on octagonal piers with chamfered bases but without capitals, the inner order dying into the pier at a height of 15 ft. from the floor. The two eastern bays of the nave occupy the position of the old chancel, and the third pier from the west on the north side is wider than the other two, marking the position of an ancient pier containing the staircase to the rood-loft. It has been entirely rebuilt, and has a capital on the south side of which is carved a shield held by two angels. The original staircase pier was 3 ft. 7 in. square, and the present pier retains this dimension from east to west, but is only 2 ft. deep, the width of the other piers of the nave.¹³ In the 16th-century rebuilding this pier seems to have been left standing and the new arcade set out westward between it and the tower. There being no corresponding wide pier on the south side of the chancel it resulted that in the setting out of the south arcade the spacing of the arches was slightly different, and that the piers did



PLAN OF PRESTWICH CHURCH

of the chancel, forming a kind of transept, and the vestry in the angle thus formed north of the chancel is a lower building of two stories.

The chancel, which measures 40 ft. by 22 ft. 6 in., together with the whole of the eastern part of the building, has no archaeological interest. The east window is one of seven lights under a segmental head and with straight uncusped bar tracery above. A modern pointed arch of two moulded orders without capitals now divides the chancel from the nave, and the west half of the chancel has an arch on each side, that on the north opening to the organ-chamber, and that on the south to the Birch chapel.

The nave now consists of five bays with an arcade of pointed arches on each side, of two chamfered

not come opposite to those on the north side. The nave, which is about 80 ft. long and 20 ft. 6 in. wide,¹⁴ has a continuous range of two-light square-headed clearstory windows, and a flat panelled roof much restored but retaining a good deal of its original 16th-century timber. The Wilton chapel occupies the two eastern bays of the aisle on the north side, and being entirely rebuilt in 1888 is of no particular interest. Its walls are considerably higher than those of the aisle, and its windows loftier, and it has a separate open timbered gable roof. The chapel is lit by three windows of three lights, with plain tracery, and has a door at its north-west corner. The easternmost arch of the nave is new, and springs from corbelled shafts on each side. The first pier from the east seems to be the west portion of a former length

¹² A plan of the church as it was in 1852 is in Booker, *Mem. of the Ch. in Prestwich*, 54.

¹³ In the middle of the 19th century the pulpit stood on the south side of this

pier, through which access was gained to it by means of a staircase.

¹⁴ The original nave was 48 ft. 6 in.

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of straight wall to the original chancel, and measures 3 ft. 10 in. on the face, its east half being new. The west half and the arch on that side are old, and the pier has on its north face a recess with a pointed head sunk in the stone above, which was perhaps a cupboard in the original chapel at the end of the north aisle. On the south side of the nave a similar pier also marks the end of the outer wall of the old chancel. The arch to the east of it is much lower than the other arches of the nave, and springs from moulded half capitals on each side, that on the east forming a respond, and that on the west being set in the eastern part of the pier. Both capitals are new, but appear to have been suggested by a mutilated fragment at the back of the first pier, which may be seen from the gallery in the Lever chapel. The arch, though apparently of 16th-century date, must have been a later insertion when the chapel was extended eastward, a blocked window still visible in the wall above proving it to have been at one time an outside wall.

The Lever chapel, the floor of which is a foot above that of the nave, occupies a position on the south side similar to that of the Wilton chapel on the north, but has a lean-to roof, plastered between the spars. It retains its gallery, which has a front of poor early 19th-century gothic panelling, and is lit by two four-light windows on the south side. There is a door with a semi-octagonal porch and gallery staircase in the south-west corner, an addition to the plan of the chapel in its rebuilding of 1874. The nave aisles proper are 12 ft. wide, and have each two pointed windows opposite the second and third bays respectively of three cinquefoiled lights with hollow chamfered mullions running up to the heads. The north aisle has a doorway opposite the first bay from the west, with a modern north porch, and at the west end is lit by a two-light pointed window with trefoiled lights and quatrefoil over in the style of the 14th century, with external chamfered jambs and head and without a label, said to be a copy of an old window formerly in the same position. The south aisle has a doorway with a four-centred arch, under an open porch, opposite the first bay, and a three-light window at the west end. The porch which, as already stated, was rebuilt in 1756, has a semicircular arch on imposts, and a stone gable with date and inscription. There is a stone bench on each side, and the door is an old one studded with nails. There are iron gates to the outer doorway. Each aisle has a second set of three square-headed windows of three lights each, placed high up in the wall to light the galleries. The galleries themselves are good specimens of 18th-century woodwork, with panelled fronts above a classic cornice. The aisle roofs are modern with exposed rafters and purlins and curved wind braces. A stone half-arch is carried across each aisle at the east end between the chapels and the aisle proper, and opposite the piers from which the old chancel arch would spring.

The tower, which is of three stages, is 19 ft. square outside, and rises 42 ft. above the ridge of the

roof, its total height being 86 ft. It has buttresses of seven stages with moulded set-offs set square at the angles, the top and bottom stages having panelled fronts, and the buttresses finish in gablets under an embattled parapet. There is an external vice in the north-east corner to the height of the ringers' story, finished with an embattled top lighted by quatrefoil openings. It is entered from the outside, but is a modern addition, the original staircase having been in the south-west angle. The tower arch is now opened out to the nave and the west window exposed. The arch has two chamfered orders of original masonry, but the jambs, which have moulded bases and capitals, are new.¹⁵ The west door is a restoration with continuous mouldings to jambs and head, and a string-course over. Above there is a new window in the style of the 15th century, of three lights with traceried head. Above this again in the ringing chamber is a modern square-headed window of two trefoiled lights, replacing a smaller single-light window which formerly lit the chamber already mentioned in the note. The ringers' room also has a single-light window on the south side, and above this, facing north, south, and east, is a clock, placed here in 1811. The north and south sides of the tower are plain and unrelieved up to this height, but above the clock is a moulded string-course on each face. The belfry stage above has a three-light louvred window on each side with traceried head and hood-mould, and the tower is crowned by an embattled and panelled parapet, originally with angle and intermediate pinnacles, above a moulded string-course with gargoyles at the angles.¹⁶ The tower has a pyramidal roof covered with grey stone slates, and a good 18th-century weather vane.¹⁷

The fittings, including the font and pulpit, are all modern, but there is an oak chest of 16th-century date in the vestry with three locks and strong iron bands, and a good 18th-century brass chandelier in the nave. The gallery fronts have already been mentioned. Booker mentions a penance form in 1743.¹⁸ The chancel has a carved oak screen and canopied stalls of good modern workmanship. The organ was not introduced till 1825.¹⁹

The church contains but few monuments, and these for the most part of little interest. The Wilton chapel was the burial place of the family of the Earl of Wilton, but the vault was finally closed in 1885. There was formerly a conspicuous monument to the first Earl of Wilton (died 1814) and members of his family in the chapel, but during the rebuilding and restoration it was removed, and has not been re-erected.²⁰ The chapel contains memorials to other members of the Egerton family, but all are of modern date.²¹

In the vestry safe are kept fourteen old deeds relating to the church, eleven on parchment and three, in the nature of memoranda, on paper. They mostly refer to relations between the churches of Prestwich and Oldham, and one is a very interesting contract for the building of the nave of Oldham Church. These were recovered by the Rev. J. Booker when writing his 'Memorials of Prestwich Church,' they

¹⁵ Formerly the ringers' chamber occupied the upper part of the lower stage of the tower, and there was a smaller chamber above it from which access was obtained to the roof of the church.

¹⁶ During some repairs in 1782 the pinnacles were taken down, and have not been replaced; Booker, *Prestwich*.

¹⁷ On the battlement is cut: 'This roof was repaired in 1763 by the parish.'

¹⁸ *Op. cit.* 37.

¹⁹ Booker, *op. cit.* 44. In 1761 Sir John Prestwich had promised an organ, but the parishioners were not unanimous as to accepting it, and it was not given. A

bassoon, hautboy, and bass viol were in use; *ibid.* 39, 40.

²⁰ The inscription is given by Booker, *op. cit.* 63.

²¹ A list of all the monumental inscriptions in the church is given in Booker, pp. 60-70, and the more recent ones in Geo. Middleton, *Annals of Prestwich*, 1902.



RADCLIFFE CHURCH, c. 1850
(From a Drawing by Selim Rothwell)



PRESTWICH CHURCH IN 1850

having been parted with by a former rector and their existence forgotten.

There is a ring of six bells. Originally there were four, but in 1721 they were recast into five by Abraham Rudhall and a sixth by the same founder added. Of these, two still bear the date 1721, and four have since been recast, three in the years 1742, 1761, and 1788 respectively, and one, the second bell, again recast in 1884 by Taylor of Loughborough.

The plate, which is all modern and silver gilt, consists of a chalice of 1883, another of 1887, and a third of 1897; three patens of 1885, and a flagon of 1880.

The registers begin in 1603, and are complete to the present time, with the exception of the registers of marriages, the entries of which cease in October 1658 and are not resumed till January 1661. The churchwardens' and overseers' accounts begin in 1647 and are continued to the present time.²⁷

The churchyard, which is almost encircled by a number of fine beech trees, lies principally on the south and west, and was extended in 1824 and again in 1886. In it is buried Charles Swain, the poet (died 1874); also Henry Wyatt, an artist, who died in 1840. The oldest gravestone is 1641.

The tithe map is kept at the office of Messrs. Marchant, Bury.

The old rectory house, called The Deyne, or Deyne Hall, which stood a little to the north of the present rectory, was a timber and plaster building, said to have been originally quadrangular in plan, but at the time of its demolition in 1837 it consisted of a centre and two wings, on the H-type of plan. In 1644, when rector Allen was ejected, a portion of the house was pulled down,²⁸ and it was never restored to its original dimensions. The present rectory took its place in 1840.^{23a}

The following is a list of the rectors:—

Institution	Rector	Patron	Cause of Vacancy
c. 1200 . . . Thomas ²⁷	—	—
c. 1230 . . . Robert ²⁸	—	—

²² G. Middleton, *op. cit.* Numerous extracts are given in Booker, *Prestwich*. See also an article in *Manch. Guardian Local N. and Q.* no. 351.

²³ 'Ten or fourteen bays of buildings'; Walker, *Sufferings of the Clergy*.

^{23a} Nicholls, *Prestwich*, 139; for view of the old house see Booker, *op. cit.* 88.

²⁴ *Pope Nich. Tax.* (Rec. Com.), 249.

²⁵ *Inq. Non.* (Rec. Com.), 39. The details are as follows: Prestwich, 20s.; Pilkington, 22s. 2d.; half of Tottington, 31s. 2d. (the other half going to Bury); Chadderton, 16s. 6d.; Oldham, 23s. 2d.; Royton, 7s.; Crompton, 13s. 4d. It will be noticed that Heaton, Alkrington, and Tonge are not named.

²⁶ The upper end of Tottington, with Musbury, Cowpe Lench, Newhall hey, Duerdon, Clough, and Graine continue to pay a moiety of the tithe (or rent charge) to Prestwich.

Traditionally the gift of these tithes is attributed to John of Gaunt, who on one occasion desired the rector of Bury to say mass for the success of his journey. Being refused, he asked the same of the rector of Prestwich, and in return for his compliance gave the moiety of the tithes; W. Nicholls, *Prestwich*, 29. John

of Gaunt was only two years old in 1341.

²⁷ *Valor Eccl.* (Rec. Com.), v, 226. The rents of the glebe lands were 102s. 7d.; tithes of grain, £24 5s. 9d.; other tithes, £6 os. 8d.; mortuaries, 10s.; Easter offerings, &c., £11 1s. The fee of the bailiff and the synodals and procurations amounted to 15s. 4d.

²⁸ *Commonwealth Ch. Survey* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), 15, 22.

²⁹ *Gastrell, Notitia Cestr.* (Chet. Soc.), ii, 107. There was an established composition of 10s. in Ringley and 4s. 2d. in Prestolee for corn tithes.

There were then six churchwardens; each on retiring nominated two, the rector choosing one as successor.

³⁰ Aikin, *Country round Manch.* 235; 'the tithes are for the most part paid by a moderate composition: 20s. per Cheshire acre for wheat; 15s. for barley (of which very little is grown); and 10s. for oats.'

³¹ Booker, *Prestwich*, 52.

³² *Manch. Dioc. Dir.* 1905.

³³ See the presentations in 1569 and later years; also *Ducatus Lanc.* (Rec. Com.), ii, 318. About 1610, however, it was stated that 'the patrons in several courses are Mr. Holland, Mr. [James]

The rectory is mentioned early *ADVOWSON* in the 13th century, and in 1291 its annual value was given as £18 13s. 4d.²⁴ Fifty years later the ninth of the sheaves, wool, &c., was only ten marks.²⁵ At this time the tithes of half of Tottington in the parish of Bury were paid to the rector of Prestwich. This may have been the result of some grant by the lord of Tottington, or may indicate that originally the parish also included Bury, Middleton, and Radcliffe.²⁶ The income of the benefice in the time of Henry VIII was estimated at £46 4s. 4d.²⁷ This was probably much below the real value, for in 1650 the glebe and tithes of Prestwich were £120 a year, and the tithes of the chapelry of Oldham, which had then been made an independent parish, £140.²⁸ By 1720 the income had risen to £400,²⁹ by 1792 to £700,³⁰ and by 1834 to £1,230.³¹ It is now returned as £2,000.³²

The patronage was vested in the lords of Prestwich until the death of Sir Robert Langley in 1561, when on the division of his estates it was given to one of the co-heirs, Dorothy, wife of James Ashton of Chadderton.³³ In 1710 William Ashton, rector of the parish and heir male, sold it to Thomas Watson Wentworth of Wentworth Woodhouse,³⁴ whose son Thomas, Earl of Malton, in 1744 sold it to Dr. John Griffith, rector from 1752 to 1763. In 1755 it was sold to James Collins of Knaresborough, and by him in 1758 to Levett Harris, rector from 1763 to 1783. Two years before his death this rector sold the advowson to Matthew Lyon of Warrington, whose son James became rector in 1783. In 1815 the Marquis of Westminster purchased it and gave it to his son Thomas, Earl of Wilton.³⁵ It was again sold, by the present earl, Sir Frederick J. W. Johnstone, bart., being the patron.³⁶

Ashton of Chadderton, and Mr. Reddish'; *Hist. MSS. Com. Rep.* xiv, App. iv, 11. The advowson of Prestwich was included in a fine of 1562, James and Dorothy Ashton being deforciant. Dorothy died without issue; Duchy of Lanc. Inq. p.m. xvi, 22. Her husband died in 1612. He appears to have had an absolute gift of the advowson, for in 1607, he stood 'lawfully seized of an estate of inheritance in fee simple or fee tail of and in the advowson,' and had granted the next presentation in 1593 to trustees, who were to present James Ashton of Moulton in Lincolnshire; Raines, D. (Chet. Lib.).

³⁴ *Notitia Cestr.* loc. cit.; the price was £1,000 in hand and £100 a year for ten years. A piece of ground called Salters Croft was conveyed with the advowson.

³⁵ Booker, *Prestwich*, 53.

³⁶ *Manch. Dioc. Dir.*

³⁷ He attested a grant of half Denton by Matthew de Reddish; Lord Wilton's deeds.

³⁸ Robert rector of the church of Prestwich granted to Richard son of Gilbert de Scolecroft half the land which Sir Gilbert de Barton granted to God and B. Mary the Virgin of Prestwich in the vill of Chadderton; Hornby Chap. D.

A HISTORY OF LANCASHIRE

Institution	Rector	Patron	Cause of Vacancy
oc. 1301 . . .	Mr. Matthew de Sholver ³⁹ . . .	—	—
4 May 1301 } .	Mr. William de Marklan ⁴⁰ . . .	Adam de Prestwich . . .	—
23 Oct. 1302 } .			
7 Aug. 1316 . .	John called Travers ⁴¹ . . .	" . . .	d. W. de Marklan
11 Dec. 1320 . .	Richard de Parr ⁴² . . .	Sir Ric. de Holland . . .	res. John Travers
15 Oct. 1332 . .	Nicholas de Trafford ⁴³ . . .	Thos. son of Adam de Prestwich . . .	d. R. de Parr
26 July 1334 . .	Richard de Warton ⁴⁴ . . .	Thos. son of Adam de Prestwich . . .	res. N. de Trafford
15 April 1347 . .	Robert de Donington ⁴⁵ . . .	Ric. de Radcliffe . . .	d. R. de Warton
29 June 1357 . .	John de Radcliffe ⁴⁶ . . .	" . . .	d. R. de Donington
1362-5 . . .	Richard de Pilkington ⁴⁷ . . .	Ric. de Radcliffe, sen. . .	—
13 Sept. 1400 . .	Geoffrey del Fere ⁴⁸ . . .	Rob. de Langley . . .	d. R. de Pilkington
— . . .	Thurstan de Atherton ⁴⁹ . . .	" . . .	—
18 Mar. 1401-2 . .	Nicholas de Tyldesley ⁵⁰ . . .	The King . . .	—
28 April 1417 . .	Philip Morgan, J.U.D. ⁵¹ . . .	" . . .	—
12 Dec. 1417 . .	Thurstan Langley ⁵² . . .	Robert Langley . . .	—
16 Feb. 1435-6 . .	Peter Langley ⁵³ . . .	" . . .	d. T. Langley
20 Aug. 1445 . .	Ralph Langley ⁵⁴ . . .	" . . .	d. P. Langley
1 May 1493 . . .	Ralph Langley, B.Decr. ⁵⁵ . . .	" . . .	d. R. Langley
4 Sept. 1498 . .	Thomas Langley ⁵⁶ . . .	" . . .	d. R. Langley

³⁹ In Feb. 1300-1 the bishop granted him leave to take part in the obsequies (*standi in obsequiis*) of Roger de Pilkington until the following Pentecost; Lich. Epis. Reg. i, fol. 23. Long afterwards it was alleged that he had without licence appropriated to the church of Prestwich a messuage called Palden in Oldham, and in 1397 and 1404 his successors were called upon to account for 10s. rent which should have accrued to the Crown for the same; L.T.R. Mem. R. 163, xiiij.

⁴⁰ On 4 May 1301 the bishop entrusted the church of Prestwich to him for a fortnight; and again on 23 Oct. 1302 the administrators of the bishopric granted him the custody of Prestwich, revocable at their good pleasure; Lich. Epis. Reg. i, fol. 23b, 24. The peculiar licence may have been due to his illegitimate birth—see the account of the rectors of Wigan—or to his possession of another benefice; for in 1311 Clement V, reciting that William de Marklan had already been dispensed on account of illegitimacy so as to be ordained and hold a benefice, granted him a further dispensation to hold the rectories of Castle Donington and Prestwich and the deanery of Chester in Durham; *Cal. Papal Letters*, ii, 82.

He appears as rector in a suit of 1304; De Banco R. 149, m. 255.

⁴¹ Lich. Epis. Reg. i, fol. 62b. A John Travers was about the same time rector of Broughton Astley in the diocese of Ely, resigning it in 1322; *Cal. Pat.* 1321-24, pp. 84, 112; the same or another was Canon of York in 1332; *Cal. Papal Letters*, ii, 358. Another John Travers was a prominent public official; see Foss, *Judges*.

⁴² Lich. Epis. Reg. i, fol. 87b; the benefice had been vacant for a month. The new rector was an acolyte. In 1324 he had permission to let his church to farm for two years; *ibid.* ii, fol. 7b. He was plaintiff in 1325; De Banco R. 258, m. 418d.

⁴³ Lich. Epis. Reg. ii, fol. 108b; he was a clerk.

⁴⁴ *Ibid.* ii, fol. 109b; he was a priest, and had been vicar of Bolton. The name is spelt Wauerton at institution and Wareton at death. He was probably one of the Wartons of Little Hulton, being a trustee for William de Warton in 1335;

Towneley MS. DD, no. 943. Complaint was made in 1346 that he had broken into the close of Henry de Bold at Prestwich; De Banco R. 345, m. 113. At the same time he claimed an account from his bailiff William de Parr, who made a counterclaim, for moneys received in Prestwich, Middleton, and Bolton-le-Moors; *ibid.* m. 232.

⁴⁵ Lich. Epis. Reg. ii, fol. 120.

⁴⁶ *Ibid.* ii, fol. 134; he was a clerk, ordained sub-deacon in 1358, deacon in 1360, and priest in 1361; *ibid.* i, fol. 162; v, fol. 82-3.

⁴⁷ At Michaelmas 1362 Richard son of William de Radcliffe claimed against Richard de Langley the right to present a fit parson to the church of Prestwich, then vacant, but was nonsuited for failing to appear; De Banco R. 411, m. 214 d. On 7 Nov. 1362 the bishop gave leave to Richard de Pilkington, rector of Prestwich, to be absent for four years attending the *studium generale*, and dispensed him in the form of the constitution; Lich. Epis. Reg. v, fol. 7b. Then on '16 Kal. Apr. 1365.' Richard de Pilkington, priest, was admitted to the rectory, vacant by the resignation of John de Pilkington, priest; *ibid.* iv, fol. 83. The last name is probably an error for John de Radcliffe; but, if so, the incoming rector had deferred his institution for three or four years.

He was defendant in a suit for debt at the end of the reign of Edward III; De Banco R. 456, m. 10, 453; R. 457, m. 186; in one place he is called Randle. He was a brother of Sir Roger de Pilkington; *ibid.* R. 460, m. 361 d. 323 d.

Richard de Pilkington died in Aug. 1400.

⁴⁸ Lich. Reg. vii, fol. 87.

⁴⁹ *Ibid.*; on 24 Jan. 1400-1 the king sent his mandate to the Bishop of Lichfield that Thurstan de Atherton should not be molested in his occupancy of the church of Prestwich until the king's claim to the patronage had been proved by process of law. From the account of Pendlebury it will be seen that though Robert de Langley came of age in June 1400 he did not give formal proof of this till 1403, so that though he was patron of the rectory and of age, the presentation was the legal right of the king.

In the record of a suit as to the right of

presentation Thurstan is said to have been the nominee of Robert de Langley. The pleading, though of some length, is imperfect. It gives, but inaccurately, the rectors from 1302; Pal. of Lanc. Plea R. 1, m. 13, 14.

⁵⁰ Lich. Epis. Reg. vii, fol. 87b; he was a clerk. For the presentation see *Lancs. Inq. p.m.* (Chet. Soc.), i, 53.

In 1404 he had to defend a claim made by the Crown to a rent of 10s. from Palden in Oldham, said to have been acquired without licence by Master Matthew, a former rector. Inquiry had been made in 1371, and account had been demanded from the executors of Robert de Donington, John de Radcliffe, and Richard de Pilkington; L.T.R. Mem. R. 163, xiiij (21 Ric. II), and 169, xij (5 Hen. IV).

⁵¹ Again there was a dispute as to the presentation. The king presented first; Dr. Morgan, one of the royal officials, afterwards Bishop of Worcester (1419-35), being put in for the time; Lich. Epis. Reg. viii, fol. 19.

⁵² *Ibid.*; he was a clerk.

⁵³ *Ibid.* ix, fol. 123; a clerk. In or about 1448 Katherine, widow of Robert de Langley, and mother of Peter de Langley late rector of Prestwich, as executor of the said Peter's will claimed debts from certain persons; Pal. of Lanc. Writs of Assize.

⁵⁴ Lich. Epis. Reg. ix, fol. 127b; a clerk. He was also Warden of Manchester from 1465 to 1481. He rebuilt the chapel at Oldham. He was brother of the preceding rector; see *Lancs. Inq. p.m.* (Chet. Soc.), ii, 147, and the account of Agecroft. His will is in P.C.C. 1 Vox.

⁵⁵ Lich. Epis. Reg. xiii, fol. 157. In 1497 he was one of the visitors appointed to inquire into disorders in the monastery of Upholland; *ibid.* xiii, fol. 236b. Ralph Langley graduated at Cambridge in 1490 as Bachelor of Decrees (Canon Law); he had had five years' study at Oxford and Cambridge; *Grace Bk. B.* (Luard Mem.), 7, 15, 20.

⁵⁶ Lich. Epis. Reg. xiii, fol. 231; a clerk. He was ordained priest in 1500: *ibid.* fol. 286b.

It is noticeable that Thomas Langley is called 'late parson of Prestwich,' and William Langley 'now parson,' both being alive, in 1523; Raines, *Chantries*, 43 note.

SALFORD HUNDRED

PRESTWICH WITH OLDHAM

Institution	Rector	Patron	Cause of Vacancy
5 April 1525 .	William Langley, M.A. ⁵⁷	Rob. Langley	d. T. Langley
28 May 1552 .	William Langley ⁵⁸	W. Davenport	d. W. Langley
19 July 1569 .	William Langley, M.A. ⁶⁰	James and Dorothy Ashton	depr. W. Langley
10 May 1611 .	John Langley, M.A. ⁶⁰	James Ashton	res. W. Langley
26 Sept. 1632 .	Isaac Allen, M.A. ⁶¹	Edm. Ashton	d. J. Langley
30 Oct. 1660 .	Edward Kenyon, B.D. ⁶²	"	d. I. Allen
— 1668 . . .	John Lake, D.D. ⁶³	—	d. E. Kenyon
19 Nov. 1685 .	William Ashton, B.D. ⁶⁴	Edward Ashton	res. Bp. Lake

⁵⁷ Raines, *Rectors of Prestwich* (Chet. Soc.), 29, quoting 'Reg. Blythe, Lichfield.' This William Langley was rector in 1534; *Valor Eccl.* (Rec. Com.), v, 226. He was the son of Robert Langley of Agecroft; Piccoppe, *Wills* (Chet. Soc.), ii, 17.

⁵⁸ Raines, 30, quoting 'Reg. Brid. Chester,' where it is recited that Robert Langley of Agecroft had in 1542 granted the next presentation to William Davenport of Bramhall, Thomas Holt of Gristlehurst, and Geoffrey Shakerley, of whom the first nominated. First-fruits were paid on 8 June 1552; *Lancs. and Ches. Rec.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), ii, 408, where will be found dates of payment by following rectors. Though at first William Langley conformed to the religious changes made by Elizabeth, he grew bolder at length, and was deprived as a recusant in 1569; *Chet. Misc.* (Chet. Soc.), v, 17-19, and below.

He had a number of suits respecting the property of his church, of which the following short notes may be given here. At Michaelmas 1555 he complained that though the rectors had always been seised of thirteen messuages, two barns, and 160 acres of land, meadow and pasture, in Prestwich and Oldham, Sir Robert Langley had recently caused the tenants to pay rents to him and had taken away the tithe corn in Alkington and Royton; Duchy of Lanc. Plead. xxxix, L 11; and again, xxxvi, L 6. A little later he complained that Sir Robert had broken into the tithe-barn at Cowleyshaw and seized the corn therein; *ibid.* xxxv, L 3. In reply to a further complaint by the rector the tenants in Oldham averred that the lands claimed belong to Sir Robert, to whom they had always paid their rents; *ibid.* xxxv, L 4, and xxxix, L 6. Sir Robert Langley also appeared as plaintiff respecting the two tithe-barns at Cowleyshaw in Crompton; the rector said the barn had been erected on the waste about 1521, by his uncle, William Langley, the preceding rector, with the consent of the owners, and had always been used for the tithe corn; *ibid.* xxxix, L 9, L 12; *Depos. lxxv*, L 1. With respect to the lands in Oldham the disputes went on after Sir Robert's death, James Ashton and Dorothy his wife being defendants; Duchy of Lanc. Plead. xlix, L 5. Some of these statements are printed in *Duchy Plead.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), iii, 222, 249.

⁶⁰ Raines, loc. cit. quoting 'Reg. Downham,' where it is stated that James Ashton of Chadderton and Dorothy his wife, daughter and co-heir of Sir Robert Langley, presented. He was 'a preacher'; *Hist. MSS. Com. Rep.* xiv, App. iv, 11. First-fruits were paid 24 Aug. 1569. Though ordained by Bishop Scott in 1558 (*Ordin. Bk.* Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches. 109), he became a zealous Protestant of the Genevan school; *Chet. Misc.* v, 19-27. He was buried at Prestwich 14 Oct. 1613; and his widow Anne, on 12 Jan. 1627-8.

The autobiography of the son of his curate in 1596 (who was a cousin) is

printed in *Chet. Misc.* (Chet. Soc.), vi, with introduction and notes by Canon Raines.

⁶⁰ Raines, loc. cit. quoting 'Reg. Lloyd.' First-fruits were paid 25 Oct. 1611.

He contributed to the clergy subsidies of 1620 and later; *Misc.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), i, 54, 66. He was buried at Prestwich 16 Aug. 1632.

⁶¹ Raines, loc. cit. quoting 'Reg. Bridgeman.' First-fruits were paid 6 Oct. 1632.

He was educated at Oxford—Queen's and Oriel Colleges—graduating as M.A. in 1618; Foster, *Alumni*. In 1622 he married Anne, daughter of Richard Ashton of Chadderton, and thus was connected with the patron. His wife was buried at Prestwich 17 Oct. 1634. He contributed to various subsidies levied from the clergy; *Misc.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), i, 95, 112.

In politics he was Royalist, and objected to the religious changes made by the Parliament. His benefice was sequestered in 1645. From the evidence given before the committee it appears that he had dissuaded his parishioners from bearing arms for the Parliament, had refused to allow the bells of the church to be rung as a signal for the people to assemble to resist Lord Derby's attack on Manchester, would not sign the Covenant, as being against his oath of allegiance; had objected to the removal of the font, and defended the ceremonies in the Book of Common Prayer. It was fully admitted that his life was unblamable and his doctrine sound, that he faithfully discharged his ministerial functions, and was 'indifferent' as to the best mode of church government; and that the majority of the parishioners would prefer him to any other. In June 1645 he had endeavoured to secure a vote by the people as to whether he or Mr. Furness should be rector, but the churchwardens opposed. In December the sequestration took effect, but £40 a year was allowed for his maintenance. His books and goods were also allowed him. The documents are given fully in *Royalist Comp. Papers* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), i, 18-34. He took refuge at Ripponden in Yorkshire, preaching to a congregation which 'loved him well'; O. Heywood, *Diaries*, iv, 7. In 1648 he made an attempt to regain his church, but was defeated. About 1650 he petitioned for the removal of the sequestration, urging that he had shown 'his good affection to the Parliament' by subscribing to its funds, and had taken the Solemn League and Covenant; *Manch. Classics*, iii, 402-5. The sequestration seems to have been removed about 1653; he returned to Prestwich in 1656, and died there just before the Restoration, being buried 2 Feb. 1659-60. Elizabeth, his widow, was buried there on 7 April 1661. Some further notes are given in *Local Gleanings Lancs. and Ches.* i, 119. For pedigree see Dugdale, *Visit.* (Chet. Soc.), 2.

The dates of institution from this time have been compared with those in the

Institution Books, P.R.O. printed in *Lancs. and Ches. Antiq. Notes*.

⁶² Son of Roger Kenyon of Parkhead, Whalley, educated at Manchester and St. John's College, Cambridge; fellow, 1653; B.D. 1663; see *Admissions St. John's C.* i, 92.

He was appointed before the Restoration; writing to his mother from London on 4 May 1660, he says: 'The commissioners having heard counsel on both sides, were fully satisfied with my patron's right, and proceeded to make trial of my fitness for the ministry, and thereupon did approve of me and give me the instrument'; *Hist. MSS. Com. Rep.* xiv, App. iv, 67. Another of his letters is printed, *ibid.* 80.

His connexions and training would put him on the Presbyterian side, but he seems to have conformed readily to the restoration of episcopacy and the Prayer-book services, and held the rectory till his death. He was buried at Prestwich, 18 July 1668. Tablets commemorate him and his wife Anne, daughter of Richard Holland of Heaton; she died 23 Sept. 1706.

⁶³ Son of Thomas Lake, grocer, of Halifax; entered St. John's College, Cambridge, in 1637, when thirteen years of age; D.D. (by royal mandate), 1661; *Admissions St. John's C.* i, 38. Though a resolute adherent of the king and episcopacy, he accepted various charges during the Commonwealth period, including those of Prestwich and Oldham for a few years, and the vicarage of Leeds in 1659. In addition to Prestwich Dr. Lake had other preferments, becoming Bishop of Sodor and Man in 1682, and of Bristol in 1684, when he resigned the rectory. Charles II in 1682 granted letters patent allowing the Bishop of Sodor and Man to hold in commendam the rectory of Prestwich and the prebend of Fridaythorp in York Minster; *Lancs. Charters* (Turner and Coxe), 7. The patron had expected him to resign on appointment to Sodor and Man, but this he refused to do for reasons given at length in a letter to Roger Kenyon; *Hist. MSS. Com. Rep.* xiv, App. iv, 147; see also 153. He did resign Carlton-in-Lindrick, being succeeded by William Ashton, who also followed him at Prestwich.

Later as Bishop of Chichester he refused to publish the Declaration of Indulgence by James II, and was one of the famous seven bishops sent to the Tower in 1688. On the Revolution he refused the oaths to William and Mary and was suspended, but died in Aug. 1689, before the deprivation he anticipated; see *Dict. Nat. Biog.* and a contemporary account in T. Baker's *Hist. of St. John's, Camb.* (ed. Mayor), ii, 681-97.

⁶⁴ He was presented also by the king; Act Bks. at Chester. He was son of the patron; educated at St. John's College, Cambridge, of which he was elected fellow; B.D. 1684. He was also rector of Carlton-in-Lindrick. His name does not occur in the list of 'conformable

A HISTORY OF LANCASHIRE

Institution	Rector	Patron	Cause of Vacancy
6 April 1732 . .	Richard Goodwin, D.D. ⁶⁵	Lord Malton	d. W. Ashton
28 Oct. 1752 . .	John Griffith, D.D. ⁶⁶	John Simpson	d. R. Goodwin
9 Dec. 1763 . .	Levett Harris, M.A. ⁶⁷	Abraham Balme	d. J. Griffith
22 Mar. 1783 . .	James Lyon, M.A. ⁶⁸	James Lyon	d. L. Harris
1 Feb. 1837 . .	Thomas Blackburne, M.A. ⁶⁹	Earl Grosvenor	d. J. Lyon
— 1847	John Rushton, D.D. ⁷⁰	Earl of Wilton	d. T. Blackburne
— 1852	Henry Mildred Birch, M.A. ⁷¹	„	res. J. Rushton
— 1884	William Thomas Jones, M.A. ⁷²	„	res. H. M. Birch
29 Jan. 1900 . .	Frederic Wilson Cooper, M.A. ⁷³	Sir F. Johnstone	res. W. T. Jones

As in the case of most 'family livings,' the incumbents of Prestwich call for little notice. Before the Reformation the most distinguished seems to have been the Ralph Langley who was also Warden of Manchester; and of the later ones, Dr. Lake, one of the Seven Bishops of 1688. Others, no doubt, like Isaac Allen and James Lyon, were useful in their time and place.

The *Clergy List* of 1541-2 shows that, in addition to the rector and one or two chantry priests, there were five other priests in the parish of Prestwich with Oldham, two paid by the rector and the others by private persons.⁷⁴ The Visitation List of 1548 shows the rector, his curate, and four other priests at Prestwich, one of them—a chantry priest—dying about that time; and the curate and three priests at Oldham. There was, therefore, a full staff of ten. In 1554 the same nine priests were in the list, but all do not seem to have attended the visitation. In 1563 the rector and his curate appeared at Prestwich, and two other priests lived there, but were 'decrepit,' and are not named again; and there was a curate at Oldham. The same three names recur in 1565.⁷⁵ Prestwich at that time is of interest because its rector,

appointed in 1552, continued under the restoration of the old religion in the following reign, and then again conformed to the changes made by Elizabeth.⁷⁶ However, he did so 'against his conscience very sore,' and 'grievously repenting' was summoned before the Bishop of Chester's commissioners in 1569, and refusing to tamper further with his convictions, was deprived.⁷⁷ His successor was a zealous Protestant. In 1591 he was convicted of uttering 'unadvised, untrue, and undutiful speeches' regarding the queen's ecclesiastical authority, but protested that he had not intended to suggest that 'the sincere professors of religion' were persecuted by her.⁷⁸ In the following year he was under censure for not catechizing and for neglecting the perambulations.⁷⁹ He was, however, held in high respect by the Puritans.⁸⁰

During the Commonwealth period the parish was prominent in its opposition to the newly-established Presbyterian system. The rector was forbidden to minister and his benefice was sequestered, but the ministers who were placed in charge were changed rapidly; and the schoolmaster was said to baptize children according to the old form.⁸¹ Rector Allen

clergy' of 1689 (*Hist. MSS. Com. Rep.* xiv, App. iv, 230), nor in the Chester Visitation List of 1691, the curate, Archippus Kippax, answering for the parish. Probably therefore he did not reside. Ultimately he became the heir of his family, and, as already stated, he sold the advowson of Prestwich in 1710. For his benefactions see Booker, *Prestwich*, 115. He died 25 Feb. 1731-2, and was buried three days later in the family chapel.

⁶⁵ Son of Samuel Goodwin, farmer, of Shirland, Derbyshire; entered St. John's College, Cambridge, in 1696; became fellow; M.A. 1703; D.D. 1727; *Admissions, St. John's C. ii*, 140. He gave £200 to Shaw Chapel in 1732; Booker, op. cit. 116. He was a prebendary of York from 1720 until his death; Le Neve, *Fasti*, iii, 175.

⁶⁶ Probably of Christ's College, Cambridge; D.D. 1741; was also rector of Eckington in Derbyshire.

⁶⁷ Of Trinity College, Cambridge; M.A. 1753. Being in difficulties, and the benefice deeply mortgaged (Baines), he sold the advowson in 1781. He died at Bradford, Yorkshire, 17 Dec. 1782.

⁶⁸ Son of Matthew Lyon, who had purchased the advowson; educated at Warrington and Brasenose College, Oxford; M.A. 1783. In 1833, to mark the completion of the fiftieth year of his ministry, his parishioners held a series of festivities and made him a presentation of plate; his former curates also made a presentation, and a marble tablet was placed in the church, recording 'the affectionate regard and attachment' he had aroused by 'a

character distinguished alike for simplicity of manners and integrity of principle,' and by the conscientious discharge of his duties.

In 1792 an Act was passed enabling the rector to grant leases of the glebe for building purposes.

⁶⁹ Of Brasenose College, Oxford; M.A. 1815; son of John Blackburne, M.P., of Hale and Orford. He was vicar of Eccles from 1818 to 1836.

⁷⁰ He had been incumbent of Newchurch in Pendle from 1825; he was made Archdeacon of Manchester in 1843 and honorary canon in 1849. He resigned the archdeaconry in 1854 on becoming vicar of Blackburn.

⁷¹ Of King's College, Cambridge; fellow; M.A. 1847. He was also made a residentiary canon of Ripon in 1868. He had been a tutor to the Prince of Wales, and was chaplain in ordinary to Queen Victoria. He died soon after resigning the benefice.

⁷² Of Pembroke College, Oxford; M.A. 1858; vicar of Tilford, Surrey, 1865-79; rector of St. Nicholas, Guildford, 1879-84; hon. canon of Manchester, 1891. He enlarged the church in 1888-9. He died in June 1903.

⁷³ Of Keble College, Oxford; M.A. 1888; vicar of Longbridge Deverell, 1890; vicar of St. Paul's, King Cross, Halifax, 1897.

⁷⁴ *Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.* 12.

⁷⁵ From the Visitation Lists at Chester.

Even as late as 1552 the church seems to have been well provided with bells, vestments, and other church furniture; *Church Goods* (Chet. Soc.), 41.

⁷⁶ He, however, refused to appear at the Visitation in 1559; Gee, *Elizabethan Clergy*. He subscribed to the queen's supremacy in 1563; *Ches. Sheaf* (3rd Ser.), i, 34.

⁷⁷ See Canon Raines in *Chet. Misc.* above quoted. William Langley averred 'that he would neither minister nor receive the sacrament of the Lord's Supper, because it is administered and given against the order of the Catholic Church.'

⁷⁸ *Ibid.* 21, 22. Thomas Cartwright and other Puritan ministers were imprisoned in 1590.

⁷⁹ *Lancs. and Ches. Antiq. Soc.* xiii, 69.

⁸⁰ *Chet. Misc.* v, 23; 'old Mr. Langley, that holy man of God and faithful servant of Christ in the House of God.' He was presented at the Visitations of 1601 and later for not wearing the surplice.

⁸¹ See the account of Isaac Allen above. The following ministers were placed in charge during his enforced absence:—

1646. Toby Furness, 'a godly and orthodox divine'; *Plund. Mins. Accts.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), i, 36. The popular opposition was manifested by a number of charges as to his character and conduct; these were, at his request, investigated by the Classis and he was acquitted; Booker, *Prestwich*, 94-101. Nevertheless he soon afterwards removed to Bury.

1649. John Lake, afterwards (1668) rector; he was an opponent of the Presbyterian system, and therefore in constant trouble with the Classis. About 1651 he took charge of Oldham, but complaints were soon made against him for 'malignancy,' and he left about 1654; *Manch. Classis*,

regained his place before 1660, and his successor appears to have become a zealous adherent of the episcopal discipline then restored.⁸²

For the next century there is little to record. Many of the rectors appear to have been non-resident, a curate having charge. A view of the condition of the parish in 1778 states that the rector had for twenty years constantly resided and had kept a curate, also in constant residence. Seven chapels of ease were regularly served, each having its minister. At the parish church there was divine service twice each Sunday, with sermon each time, and 'on stated holidays.' Catechizing took place for eight Sundays in the summer. 'The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper was duly administered every first Sunday of the month, besides the great festivals and Good Friday.' There were chapels for the Presbyterians and the Methodists, and a few Quakers were known; but these Nonconformists were mostly of the lower ranks. 'Popery' was represented by eight or ten persons, 'all of lower rank'; there was no resident priest, meeting-place, or school.⁸³ Since then the conditions have greatly changed, owing especially to the growth of Oldham, Middleton, and Radcliffe; but it is of interest to have this statement of what an

18th-century rector thought was an orderly and well-equipped parish.

Among the curates of Prestwich should be named the Rev. John Booker, whose histories of this and other churches are of great value.⁸⁴

There were formerly two endowed chantries in the church. At the altar of St. Margaret, on the south side of the chancel, was the Langley chantry, founded by Agnes daughter of John Langley of Agecroft, and wife of Sir Thomas Holt and then of Thomas Manne.⁸⁵ The other chantry was founded by Ellis Hulton.⁸⁶ At the confiscation the priests were celebrating according to their several foundations.

Schools were founded at Oldham in 1606; at Ringley in 1626; and at Stand in Pilkington in 1696; the last-named belonged to the Protestant Nonconformists in 1718.⁸⁷

Various charitable endowments existed at the date just named.⁸⁸ For the Prestwich half of the parish £10 for the poor represents a gift by Sir Thomas Egerton in 1756.⁸⁹ For the township of Prestwich the principal endowments are those of the Earl of Wilton in 1814 and Lewis Novelli in 1844, producing nearly £60; there are also a poor's stock and some special funds.⁹⁰

iii, 375-95; also ii, 134, &c. His stipend at Prestwich was £80 a year; *Commonw. Ch. Surv.* 15. From this record it appears that other ministers had been tried at Prestwich — Langley, Porter, and Brierley.

1652. Nehemiah Rathband; Booker, *Prestwich*, 104. In 1656 he moved to Keighley in Yorkshire; *Manch. Classis*, ii, 227; iii, 444.

After Rathband's departure Rector Allen seems to have regained his church; in October 1656 a letter was sent to him desiring his appearance at the class, but he paid no attention; *ibid.* ii, 252-3. He thus replied to the summons of the Classis in 1658: 'We are unsatisfied what you mean by your church, whether you mean your church at Manchester, where your classis is, or you mean the church of England. If you mean the church of Manchester of your association, it is established not so much by an ordinance of the Lords and Commons in Parliament as by later acts granting the free exercise of religion in doctrine and worship to all churches and congregations in their own way. . . But if your meaning be of the Church of England, you are certainly mistaken and dare not maintain it that the Protector or his Council own presbytery and none but that government'; Booker, *Prestwich*, 92, quoting his *Excommunicatio Excommunicata*, 294-5. An accommodation was attempted; *Manch. Classis*, iii, 296-9.

Mr. Birch, the schoolmaster, who said he was a deacon, continued to defy the Classis down to 1649, baptizing children and performing other ministerial acts; *Manch. Classis*, i, 47; ii, 101, 109, &c.

In August 1657 John Angier and William Coulburne were ordained at Prestwich church; 'Mr. Meeke began with prayer, Mr. Newcome preached, Mr. Harrison prayed after, Mr. Newcome (for Mr. Heyrick) propounded the questions and gave the exhortation'; *Manch. Classis*, ii, 269. It does not appear that Mr. Allen was present.

⁸² Edward Kenyon is mentioned a number of times in Newcome's *Diary* (Chet. Soc.), showing that he was friendly with the Nonconformist divine; but in

the case of Mr. Constantine of Oldham, ejected in 1662, he gave no satisfaction. 'Some men have a strange measure of stiffness; alas, what a temptation is this wretched world!' remarks Newcome, 220.

The churchwardens' accounts show that the king's arms were set up in 1660; while a surplice and linen table-cloth were purchased in 1662, when also a stone font was again set up; Booker, *Prestwich*, 23, 24.

⁸³ Booker, *Prestwich*, 82-8. The curate's salary was £50 a year. A list of the curates is given in the same work, 118-31.

⁸⁴ He was of Magdalene College, Cambridge; B.A. 1844, M.A. 1855. He was ordained in the former year, and after serving various curacies, including Prestwich from 1848 to 1858, was appointed perpetual curate of Benilton, Surrey, in 1863. He published *Memoir of the Ch. in Prestwich* in 1852; a *Hist. of the Ancient Chapel of Blackley*, 1854; and through the Chetham Society, *Hist. of the Chapels of Denton, Didsbury, Chorlton, and Birch*, 1855-8. He married the daughter of Dr. Lee, first Bishop of Manchester. He resigned his benefice in 1895, and died two years later.

⁸⁵ Raines, *Chantries* (Chet. Soc.), ii, 190-3. The endowment consisted of burgages in Manchester, and tenements in Halifax and Altrincham; the net revenue was 76s. 8d. The priest, John Hall, is named in the Visitation List of 1548, but as *mortuus* is written against him, he probably died about that time, being succeeded by Lawrence Wallwork. The chapel, as 'newly built,' is mentioned in the wills of Robert Langley of Agecroft and Eleanor his wife.

⁸⁶ *Ibid.* ii, 193; no particulars of the endowment are given, but Canon Raines found that lands in Hundersfield had belonged to it. The income was £4 10s. 2d. and the incumbent was Thomas Dodson, who was still living in the parish in 1554.

⁸⁷ Gastrell, *Notitia*, ii, 111, 116, 119.

⁸⁸ *Ibid.* ii, 111, 116. An acre of land at Rainsough in Prestwich, bought by the inhabitants, brought in £4 a year, distri-

buted in linen cloth. The land seems afterwards to have been used as the site of the workhouse, occupied till 1869, and sold in 1875.

⁸⁹ The following details are taken from the report of the Endowed Charities inquiry, held in 1903; in it the report of 1826 is reprinted.

In 1826 the £200 bequeathed by Sir T. Grey Egerton was invested in a mortgage on land in Chadderton, and produced £10 a year, distributed by the churchwardens at Christmas time. The capital now consists of £333 railway stock, producing £9 19s. 9d. a year; the benefits have long been restricted to the poor attending the parish church of St. Mary.

⁹⁰ The poor's money in 1826 amounted to £101 5s., having been contributed by a number of benefactors from 1698 onwards. There is a list in Booker, *Prestwich*, 75. The money was in 1819 expended in building the workhouse mentioned above, and the overseers paid £5 a year as interest; this was expended on linen cloth given to the poor. In 1846 the auditor disallowed this payment; but when the workhouse was sold in 1875 £107 of the proceeds was set apart for the benefit of the poor. The income, £2 15s. 8d., is distributed with Sir Thomas Egerton's charity.

Sir Holland Egerton in 1730 left £20 to the poor of Prestwich and Great and Little Heaton; in 1826 the interest was distributed in loaves once a month at Prestwich Church, but being paid out of the rates was afterwards disallowed by the auditor and lost.

Thomas, Earl of Wilton, in 1814 left £500 to trustees for the benefit of the poor of the three townships named above, and another £500 for the poor of the Heaton; the possessor of Heaton Hall was to determine the manner of distribution. In 1826 a distribution of clothing and blankets to the value of over £100 (of which about £40 was the interest of Lord Wilton's legacies) was made at the hall to the poor of the district. The capital is now £1,117 consols, giving an income of £27 18s. 8d.; this is distributed at Polefield Hall by the rector of

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The stock for Great and Little Heaton has been lost.⁹¹ Pilkington has a share in the benefaction of William Baguley, 1728; its poor's fund has been lost, but for the hamlet of Unsworth Miss Jane Margaret Birkett, daughter of a former incumbent of the church there, in 1872 left £500 for the sick poor. The other endowments of this township are for churches and schools.⁹²

PRESTWICH

Prestwich, 1194; Prestwic, 1202; Prestewic, 1203.

The township of Prestwich extends about 2 miles in a north-east direction from the Irwell, which forms one boundary, to the border of Heaton near Poppythorn. The area is 1,917½ acres.¹ The old village is situated on the north-west side of the township, with the parish church to the south, and the old hall to the north. Two picturesque cloughs distinguish the western half. One of these—the Mere clough—begins near the old hall and goes south-west to the Irwell, forming, as might be gathered from the name, a boundary between Prestwich and Outwood in Pilkington. The other begins to the south of the church and winds along, first west and then south, to the Irwell. Near Mere clough, and about half a mile apart, are the two great buildings of one of the county lunatic asylums.² In the southern corner is Rainsough, and to the east lie the residential districts of Hilton Park and Sedgely Park, suburbs of Manchester. Near the boundary is Castle Hill, and Singleton's lies to the north of it. Singleton Brook divides this township from Broughton. On the eastern side, on the border of Heaton Park, is the hamlet of Rooden Lane, and to the north, on the highest land within the boun-

daries, is Polefield. The population numbered 12,839 in 1901.³

The principal roads are those from Manchester to Bury, the Old Road to the east, near the border, the New Road, formed in 1827, through the centre. There are numerous cross roads; one runs north-east from Agecroft Bridge to Heaton. The Lancashire and Yorkshire Railway has its Manchester and Bury line through the township, with stations called Heaton Park and Prestwich. A tramway, connected with the Salford system, runs along the Bury New Road.

A botanist of note, Richard Broxton, was born at Sedgely Hall Farm in 1786. He died in 1865.⁴

In 1867 a local board of twelve members was elected;⁵ replaced in 1894 by an urban district council, of fifteen members, from five wards.

At Diggle Hill, near the centre of the township, are reservoirs of the Manchester Water Works.

There are several bleach works in the township, and two small-ware manufactories. Rooden Lane was formerly a great centre of the hand-loom weaving, which died out about 1882.⁶

The wakes were formerly held in August.⁷

The stocks have disappeared, but were in use in 1800.⁸

The hearth tax return of 1666 records ninety-seven hearths in the township, the largest houses being the rector's with ten hearths, James Wilson's with seven, and John Glover's with six.⁹

From the survey of 1212 it appears *MANOR* that *PRESTWICH* was held of the king in thegnage, and was assessed as four oxgangs of land; the service was a rent of 10s.¹⁰ Robert de Prestwich occurs in 1193,¹¹ and his son Adam agreed to pay 5 marks as relief on succeeding in or before 1206.¹² Adam de Prestwich was in possession in 1212, holding Prestwich, Great Heaton, and Fails-

Prestwich and Lord Wilton's agent, a gift of the value of 7s. being made to each chosen recipient.

Lewis Novelli in 1844 bequeathed £1,000 for poor, aged, or sickly inhabitants 'being regular attendants at some Protestant Established Church' in the parish, the rector and churchwardens having the distribution. After some difficulties the money was paid to the official trustees in 1857, and is represented by £1,246 consols, producing £31 3s. yearly. The benefits are now confined to poor persons attending the parish church and St. Margaret's, Holyrood.

The same Lewis Novelli left about £1,500 for the choir and organ fund of the parish church. A fund of £500 raised in 1890 to commemorate John St. Lawrance Beaufort, postmaster of Manchester, is invested for exhibitions for the scholars of Bury New Road National Schools.

James Davenport in 1882 left money for the parish church and St. Margaret's and the schools. William Bradbury in 1882 left money for St. Margaret's Church, a Liberal Club, &c.; but these gifts are not yet available, his widow surviving. The Wesleyan Methodist Chapel has an endowment of £58.

⁹¹ In 1826 it was supposed that some ancient benefactions were deposited in Sir Holland Egerton's hands and formed part of the £20 he left to the poor; but, as above stated, all this has now been lost.

⁹² Various donations from 1698 to

1737 established a poor's fund of £112 for Pilkington. It is supposed the fund was given to the overseers for the workhouse; they in 1826 paid £5 as interest, linen cloth being given to the poor. The Pilkington Workhouse was demolished about 1850, and the interest ceased to be paid.

George Hardman in 1762 left £40 for linen for the poor; by 1826 half the capital had been lost, but the remainder produced 18s. a year, distributed according to the benefactor's desire. Nothing, however, is now known of it.

A share of a gift by William Baguley in 1728 was received by the poor of Outwood; this amounted to 40s. 10d. in 1826, and was distributed in linen cloth. This charity survives, and doles of calico and winsey are made in January.

Miss Birkett's bequest brings £118s. 8d. a year, which is distributed in money gifts to poor persons of all religious denominations.

The schools at Stand, Ringley, and Unsworth have endowments, as also the chapel at Ringley, and the Sunday school at Cinderhill. The Hollins Young Men's Institute is also noticed in the report.

¹ The census report of 1901 gives 3,167 acres, including 57 of inland water; but in 1894 the boundaries of Prestwich proper were extended to include the rural portions of the adjacent townships of Great and Little Heaton; Local Govt. Bd. Order 32103. A small part of the township lies to the south of the Irwell.

² The asylum in Prestwich Wood was opened in 1851, being built to accommodate 500 patients. It has been several times enlarged, and the annexe, for 1,100 patients, was built in 1884. There is now accommodation for 2,600. There is a church attached; see W. Nicholls, *Prestwich*, 116-20.

³ This is for the extended area, but the addition made in 1894 had only 461 inhabitants.

⁴ *Dict. Nat. Biog.*

⁵ *Lond. Gaz.* 21 Dec. 1866.

⁶ W. Nicholls, *Prestwich*, 55.

⁷ *Ibid.* 67. A programme of the sports in 1832 is reprinted.

⁸ *Ibid.* 78.

⁹ Subs. R. bdle. 250, no. 9, Lancs.

¹⁰ *Lancs. Inq. and Extents* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), i, 67. In later times the tenure was by knight's service and a rent.

¹¹ Farrer, *Lancs. Pipe R.* 77. He paid 4 marks for having the king's good will, as one of the men of the rebellious John, Count of Mortain. He occurs again in 1201 and 1205 as a contributor to the tallage and scutage; *ibid.* 151, 205.

¹² *Ibid.* 203. This entry is in the same roll as the last-mentioned payment by Robert de Prestwich, showing that the father died in the year 1205-6. The Robert de Prestwich recorded in the farm of the county in 1226 is probably the same man, the name being taken from an old roll—like Augustine de Barton—but it may be the successor of Adam; *Lancs. Inq. and Extents*, i, 137.

worth.¹³ For over sixty years there is scarcely any mention of the manor, another Adam de Prestwich appearing in 1278.¹⁴ He was probably the same Adam who was plaintiff in 1292,¹⁵ and who in 1297 settled his manors of Prestwich, Alkington, and Pendlebury on John his son and heir and Emmota his wife.¹⁶ This arrangement was not permanent, for he appears to have married about the same time one Alice de Wolveley, whose children became his heirs.¹⁷ In 1311 he gave the manor of Pendlebury to her son Robert,¹⁸ and in 1313 settled the manors of Prestwich, Alkington, and Pendlebury, and the advowson of the church of the manor of Prestwich upon Thomas his son by Alice, with remainders to her other children.¹⁹

In virtue of this Alice his widow succeeded him,²⁰ and was in turn followed by her son, Thomas de Prestwich. He very quickly granted his manors to Richard son of William de Radcliffe for life, and then in fee.²¹ In 1346, therefore, Richard de Radcliffe was returned as holding the manor of Prestwich with the advowson of the church.²² Two years afterwards he made a feoffment of the manor and advowson, probably on his marriage with one Isabel.²³ Whatever may have been the meaning of this transfer to the Radcliffes, it appears that in 1362 new feoffments were made,²⁴ and the trustees regranted the manor of Prestwich and the advowson of the church for the lives of Richard and Isabel, and for a year and a day

after their decease, paying to Richard de Langley 50 marks a year, and also performing the services due to the chief lords, the manor to revert to Richard de Langley or his heirs.²⁵ The right of the Langleys under the settlement of 1313 was thus fully acknowledged.

What became of Thomas de Prestwich is unknown.²⁶ He had two daughters and co-heirs—Margaret and Agnes.²⁷ The former took the veil at Seaton in Cumberland in 1360, but afterwards left the convent and married Robert de Holland; and Agnes, who had married John son of William de Radcliffe, and who was considered the heir after her sister's veiling, died without issue about 1362.²⁸ In 1367 a further agreement was made between the Radcliffes and Langleys for securing the succession of Richard de Langley and Joan his wife and the heirs of Joan.²⁹ About the same time Robert de Holland put forward his claims to the manor as the right of Margaret, and in 1371 Richard de Radcliffe the elder and Isabel his wife released to Robert and Margaret all their claim to the manor and advowson,³⁰



LANGLEY. *Argent a cockatrice sable, crested, beaked and membered gules.*

¹³ *Lancs. Inq. and Extents*, 67. Heaton and Failsworth were held by under-tenants.

¹⁴ Thomas, lord of Prestwich, made a grant in Heaton about 1260; *Harl. MS.* 2112, fol. 148/184. A John de Prestwich, rector of Whitwell, occurs about the same time; *ibid.* fol. 145b/181b. Robert son of Robert de Nettleham was non-suited in a claim for a tenement in Prestwich made against Adam de Prestwich in 1278; *Assize R.* 1238, m. 33d.

¹⁵ *Assize R.* 408, m. 25; Adam de Prestwich claimed arrears of customs and services for a tenement in Prestwich held by John Byron, but was non-suited. This probably refers to Failsworth.

¹⁶ *Agecroft D.* 4.

¹⁷ A fuller account of Adam de Prestwich and his descendants is given under Pendlebury, *Agecroft* in that township having become the principal seat of his heirs. Other descendants of his are named in the account of Whittleswick in Barton.

¹⁸ *Final Conc.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), ii, 12; the grant included 40 acres in Prestwich also.

Alice, the sister of Robert, succeeded; she married Jordan de Tetlow, and her heir was her daughter Joan, who married Richard de Langley; *Lancs. Inq. p.m.* (Chet. Soc.), i, 53.

¹⁹ *Final Conc.* ii, 16; *Agecroft D.* 11. After the children of Alice the remainder was to Roger de Prestwich. Claims were put in by Alice, sister of John de Byron; John son of John de Prestwich, Adam de Worley, and Emma his wife, and John and Thomas sons of Emma—possibly the Emmota of 1297.

At the beginning of 1319 Adam de Prestwich claimed a messuage, etc., in Prestwich held by Roger de Prestwich and Thomas his son; *De Banco R.* 226, m. 24. Adam and Alexander de Prestwich were also plaintiffs as executors of the will of John, rector of Whitwell; *ibid.* m. 65. At Easter in the same year Adam complained that certain persons had cut down and carried off some of his trees at Oldham,

to the value of £10; *ibid.* R. 229, m. 70d. Soon afterwards he died, for in July 1319, Thomas son of John de Prestwich released to Alice, widow of Adam de Prestwich, all his claim on the family manors; *Agecroft D.* 13 (dated at Pontefract).

²⁰ She held Prestwich, Heaton, and Alkington in 1324. Her holding was called one plough-land, and the service due was 20s.; *Lancs. Inq. and Extents*, ii, 104, 135, 204. She appears to have died about 1330.

²¹ Thomas son of Adam de Prestwich and Alice de Wolveley in 1331 granted his manors of Prestwich, Alkington, and Pendlebury, and the land he had acquired from John son of Alexander de Prestwich, to Richard son of William de Radcliffe for his life, at a yearly rent of £26 and 19d. in silver for the first three years, and 100 marks of silver for the rest of the term; *Agecroft D.* 14. The rents seem to show that this was a grant in trust. A little later he gave the same Richard all his right in the manor of Prestwich and the demesne, including the park, and a pasture called the Denehead; *ibid.* 15. The grantee was the lord of Radcliffe.

In 1333 he granted to Richard and his heirs his manor of Prestwich, with the park and the Denehead, at a yearly rent of a rose for the first twenty years and of 10 marks afterwards; *ibid.* 17, 18. This was soon followed by a release of all actions touching his *fermes* of Prestwich, Pendlebury, and Alkington; *ibid.* 19. He presented to the rectory in 1334, but soon afterwards made over the advowson to Richard de Radcliffe (*ibid.* 6, 20, 21), who presented from 1347 to 1365.

Thomas gave a release to his brother Robert in 1345; *ibid.* 22.

²² *Add. MS.* 32103, fol. 146; *Dods. MSS.* lxxxvii, fol. 59b.

²³ *Agecroft D.* 23, 24. The trustees regranted to Richard de Radcliffe and Isabel his wife and their issue; *ibid.* 25, 26.

²⁴ *Ibid.* 28–30. In one grant a place called the 'Fohcastel' was reserved. In

1479 it was attested that 'Foyecastell' moor belonged to the lordship of Prestwich, and not to that of Crumpsall; *ibid.* 83. Castle Hill lies in the south-east corner of the township, in the borders of Broughton and Crumpsall.

²⁵ *Ibid.* 31, 32, dated 9 Dec. 1362. The feoffees made a final release in 1364; *ibid.* 33.

²⁶ He had an illegitimate son who received land in Tonge and took the local name, as will be seen in the account of that township. Thomas was living in 1348, when he claimed certain lands in Prestwich against his sister Alice and against Robert and Thurstan sons of Jordan de Tetlow; *De Banco R.* 356, m. 384d. Alice, widow of Thomas de Prestwich, was a defendant in 1356, respecting lands in the township; *Duchy of Lanc. Assize R.* 5, m. 4.

²⁷ Margaret de Prestwich and Agnes her sister were in 1357 plaintiffs respecting a tenement in Prestwich, Richard, son of John de Radcliffe being defendant; *Duchy of Lanc. Assize R.* 6, m. 2d.

²⁸ The story is told in *Lancs. Inq. p.m.* (Chet. Soc.), i, 50–3, and in a more complete record in the *Agecroft D.* 66. See also *Pal. of Lanc. Misc. bde.* 1, no 8, m. 25, 26. The dates of Margaret's entrance into religion and her sister's death seem to be marked by the feoffments above related.

²⁹ *Agecroft D.* 44; in this the rent payable by Richard de Radcliffe is stated as 5 (not 50) marks. It was confirmed by a fine in 1369; *Final Conc.* ii, 176.

Sir John de Radcliffe, of Ordsall, in 1412 quitclaimed to Robert de Langley all his right to the Prestwich manors; *Agecroft D.* 59.

³⁰ *Ibid.* 34. Thurstan son of John de Prestwich in 1375 released to Robert de Holland all his claim on the manors of Prestwich, Alkington, and Pendlebury and the advowson of Prestwich; *ibid.* 37. In 1416 he gave a similar release to Robert de Langley; *ibid.* 72.

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while in 1374 Robert de Holland and Margaret his wife made a feoffment of their manor of Prestwich,³¹ and two years later granted to Peter their son all their lands and tenements in Prestwich, Alkrington, and Pendlebury, together with the advowson of Prestwich.³²

Roger de Langley the son and heir was a minor in 1372, and in ward to the Duke of Lancaster,³³ when Robert de Holland assembled a troop of armed men, and by force took possession of the manor, holding it till 1389.³⁴ The Langleys, however, had not been neglectful of their claim. As early as 1371 a certificate had been procured stating that Margaret de Prestwich had been duly professed,³⁵ and Roger as son and heir of Richard and Joan appears to have put forward his claim in due form,³⁶ but it was not till 1394, after his death, that a final decision was made.³⁷ The heir, his son Robert, being a minor, the manor of Prestwich, with a parcel of Alkrington and the advowson of the church, were taken into the duke's hands, livery being granted in 1403.³⁸

The manor then descended peaceably in the same way as Pendlebury,³⁹ the most notable feature of the

family's tenure being the succession of Langleys to the rectory for 200 years.

On the death of Sir Robert Langley in 1561 and the consequent partition, the manor of Prestwich became the share of his daughter Margaret, who married John Reddish of Reddish,⁴⁰ and afterwards Richard Holland, of Denton.⁴¹ Her son, Alexander Reddish, left two daughters as co-heirs, Sarah and Grace.⁴² The former, who married Clement, a younger son of Sir Edward Coke, the famous lawyer and chief justice, had the manor of Prestwich. It descended in the Coke family, though Sarah's issue died out, until 1777, when Thomas William Coke, the famous 'Mr. Coke of Holkham,' in Norfolk, a leader in the agricultural revolution which took place in the latter part of the 18th century, wishing to increase his Norfolk estates, began to sell Prestwich in parcels.⁴³ T. W. Coke in 1779 paid 9s. 4d. to the duchy for Prestwich.⁴⁴ The manor was, in 1794, acquired by Peter Drinkwater, who resided at Irwell House in Prestwich, and it descended to his son Thomas. Thomas died in 1861, leaving two daughters; and Irwell House, with land called Drinkwater Park, has

³¹ Agecroft D. 36.

³² Ibid. 38. In 1375 Robert de Holland appeared as plaintiff, certain persons having cut down his trees at Prestwich; De Banco R. 459, m. 10.

³³ On 13 Nov. 1372 John Duke of Lancaster directed the sheriff to take into the duke's hands the manor of Prestwich, because of the minority of Roger de Langley, the heir, the tenure being stated to be by knight's service; *Duchy of Lanc. Misc. Bks.* xiii, 163. In a plea of 1390 the date of the sheriff's entry is given as 15 May, 1374; possibly the father died in one year and the mother in the other; *Lancs. Inq. p.m.* (Chet. Soc.), i, 52.

³⁴ Ibid., and more fully in an exemplification of the pleas of 1390 made in 1414; Agecroft D. 66. Robert de Holland denied that Margaret was a nun or professed. The suit quoted was in form a claim by the duke for the profits which should have accrued to him from the wardship of Roger de Langley, but lost through the forcible occupation by the Hollands.

³⁵ Agecroft D. 35. 'Dame Margaret de Prestwich, one of the nuns of Seaton, of the age of fifteen years and more, was professed on the morrow of St. Katherine the Virgin and Martyr, A.D. 1360, in the presence of Sir John Cragge, prior of the Abbey of Furness, Sir John de Huddleston, knight and lord of Millom, Richard de Coupland of Furness, Richard de Huddleston and others . . . and the said Margaret on the said day confessed before the said persons that she was not coerced or compelled, but voluntarily entered the order of St. Benedict in the said house and was professed.' A similar certificate was procured in 1388; *ibid.* 39, 40.

³⁶ See the statements in the inquisition and plea above cited.

³⁷ Agecroft D. 66. When the Duke of Lancaster called upon the Archbishop of York to make inquiry as to Margaret's profession, he gave no reply, Seaton being outside the duke's regality; so that application had to be made to the king, in reply to whom the archbishop in June 1394 duly certified that 'Margaret, daughter of Thomas, son of Alice de Wolvey . . . was a nun and professed in the house of the nuns of Seaton.' On this judgement

was given for the duke in his claim against Robert de Holland.

Dower was in the same year (1394) granted to Margaret widow of Roger de Langley, from the manor of Prestwich together with the hamlet of Alkrington appertaining to the manor; it included the Hallfield and Denehead, part of the demesne, and the chapel chamber with the chapel at Prestwich, a stable and haybarn; *ibid.* 56.

The Hollands did not immediately resign their claims. In 1395 the feoffees of Robert and Margaret granted to Edmund their son the manor and advowson of Prestwich for the life of Robert de Holland, on whose death it was to go to Peter the son of Robert and his issue, with successive remainders to Peter's brothers and sisters, Nicholas, John, Edmund, Marion, Katherine, and Alice; *ibid.* 42.

At the end of 1401 Robert de Holland released to Robert de Langley all his claim upon the manors of Prestwich, Alkrington, and Pendlebury, and his sons were to do the same when they should come of age; an annuity of 5 marks a year was granted in return for this; the parties were sworn upon the sacrament of the altar to hold to this agreement; *ibid.* 57*. In 1416 Peter de Holland agreed to give up all his deeds relating to the Prestwich manors, and formally gave 'his manors' up to trustees (for the Langleys) in 1418; *ibid.* 69, 73.

The settlement was not arrived at without violence. In May 1402 the king granted his pardon to Robert de Langley for capturing and detaining Robert de Holland. The latter had, it seems, at various times invaded the manor of Prestwich and carried away the cattle and goods of Langley and his tenants into Cheshire, not restoring them without payment. He had also come by night and carried some of Langley's cattle as far as Glossop; being pursued, he entered the house of Master Wagstaffe and defied Robert de Langley, wounding one of his servants with an arrow. The brother of the wounded man threw fire into the house, so that it was burnt down and Holland had to surrender, and was taken into Lancashire. He had already been outlawed for treason; *ibid.* 58.

³⁸ *Inq. p.m.* above cited, and Towneley

MS. DD, no. 1466. In 1398 the Duke of Lancaster released to his ward Robert de Langley a rent of 11 marks due as the farm of his lands in Prestwich and Alkrington, and this because of Robert's 'good and agreeable service,' rendered to the duke, who had retained him in his service for life; Agecroft D. 57.

³⁹ But little is known of the manor during this period. In 1410 it appears that Edmund de Prestwich and Margaret his wife had received from Robert de Langley certain lands in Prestwich as Margaret's portion; *ibid.* 34. In 1468 there was a dispute between the Langleys and the Radcliffes of Ordsall; *ibid.* 79; and in 1484 between them and the Radcliffes of Radcliffe, as to the bounds of Crumpsall and Prestwich; *ibid.* 86, 87.

In 1472 it was found that Thomas Langley, deceased, had held the manor of Prestwich of the king as Duke of Lancaster, by the sixteenth part of a knight's fee and a rent of 12s. a year; its clear annual value was £10; Agecroft D. 80. At the death of Sir Robert Langley in 1561 the tenure was called socage, by a rent of 13s. 4d.; *Duchy of Lanc. Inq. p.m.* xi, 16.

⁴⁰ Land in Prestwich is named in a settlement of the lands of John Reddish and Margaret his wife in 1569; *Pal. of Lanc. Feet of F. bde.* 31, m. 164.

⁴¹ In a list of chief rents paid to Queen Elizabeth occurs 'Richard Holland for another fourth part [of Sir R. Langley's lands], 9s. 4d.'; Baines, *Lancs.* (ed. 1870), i, 447.

⁴² Margaret Holland died in September 1625, and was buried at Prestwich; thus surviving her son Alexander Reddish, who died in 1613 when his daughter Grace was aged twenty-five, and wife of Sir Robert Darcy, while Sarah was only twelve; *Lancs. Inq. p.m.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Chas.), i, 254.

Sarah Coke died in 1623-4 and Clement her husband in 1630, leaving a son and heir Edward, aged twelve, on 17 Feb. 1630; *Duchy of Lanc. Inq. p.m.* xxvi, 53. See further in the account of Reddish.

⁴³ W. Nicholls, *Prestwich*, 33-6. 'No trace can be found of a [manor] court being held here'; *ibid.* 37.

⁴⁴ *Duchy of Lanc. Rentals, bde.* 14, no. 25 m.

been sold to the Corporation of Salford on a ground rent, and a further part of the land to the Prestwich District Council.⁴⁵

The manor of Prestwich—i.e. a mesne lordship between the Earl of Lancaster and the local family—seems to have been granted to Sir Robert de Holland early in the 14th century, but the claim to it failed.⁴⁶

The other daughters of Sir Robert Langley also had lands in Prestwich, on a division of the estate. Thus William Dautesey of Agecroft held 16 acres as appurtenant to his manor-house.⁴⁷ James Ashton, of Chaderton, in right of his wife Dorothy had a much larger estate.⁴⁸ Part of it was the Polefield estate, since divided into three portions, one of which—Polefield Hall and lands—is now owned by the Earl of Wilton.⁴⁹

Poppythorn is an ancient part of the glebe land.⁵⁰

Sedgeley was, in 1788, purchased from T. W. Coke by Thomas Philips, a Manchester merchant. His son George was created a baronet in 1826. The house, called Sedgeley Hall, was from 1848 to 1854 the residence of Dr. Prince Lee, the first bishop of Manchester. The estate has been utilized for building purposes.⁵¹

Rooden was, in the 14th century, owned by the Hollands.⁵² It has been included in the Heaton Park estate, purchased by the Corporation of Manchester.⁵³

Henry de Trafford of Prestwich occurs in 1348

and later years.⁵⁴ No landowners were assessed to the subsidy in 1541, but in 1622 Edward Holland, Robert Leigh, and Richard Tonge contributed.⁵⁵ The land tax returns of 1787 show the effect of the Coke sale; the largest contributor was James Chapman, who paid about a ninth of the sum collected.⁵⁶

Sir John Prestwich, some of whose antiquarian collections are in the Chetham Library, claimed to represent the old Prestwich family; he died in Dublin, 15 August 1796.⁵⁷ He had no territorial connexion with the township.

The parish church has already been described. St. Margaret's, Holyrood, was opened in 1851 and consecrated the following year; it has had several additions. A separate district was assigned to it in 1885.⁵⁸ St. Hilda's, a chapel of ease at Rooden Lane, was consecrated in 1904, but services had been conducted there for some years previously.

Wesleyan Methodism was introduced as early as 1805, a cottage in Rooden Lane being used for Sunday meetings. A small chapel was built in 1820, which was replaced by the existing building in 1865.⁵⁹ In Prestwich village services began in 1812, but the Rooden Lane chapel accommodated this congregation also for a time. In 1830 a new start was made; a school-chapel was built in 1835, and a chapel in the main street followed in 1840. The present church

⁴⁵ Nicholls, *op. cit.* 34, 39; and Burke, *Commoners*, iii, 669.

⁴⁶ Maud, widow of Sir Robert de Holland, in 1346 claimed dower in the manor of Prestwich against Richard de Radcliffe; the defence was that Robert was never in seisin, and no more is heard of the claim; *De Banco R.* 347, m. 158; 350, m. 250.

⁴⁷ *Lancs. Inq. p.m.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), iii, 349. Among the Agecroft deeds are leases of land in Prestwich to Hopwood and to Astley in the 18th century.

⁴⁸ *Ibid.* i, 225. In 1587 James Ashton and Dorothy his wife granted to William Dautesey an annuity of £10 from lands in Prestwich called Over Fleams, Lower Fleams, Showebrode, and the Rodes; *ibid.* 229.

⁴⁹ W. Nicholls, *Prestwich*, 37, 38; the other portions are known as Polefield House and Pippintree (or Polefield). The pole from which it took its name was used for signals, standing on the highest ground in the parish; *ibid.* 93.

⁵⁰ In the early years of Elizabeth's reign William Langley, then rector, being seised of a messuage and lands called 'Popethorne,' demised to Robert Holt of Prestwich a messuage lately built there and called the New Chamber, together with 4 acres of land and meadow and housing for his corn, hay, turves, and cattle. The rector afterwards refused to carry out the agreement, and Robert Holt appealed to the Chancellor, Sir Ambrose Carr; *Duchy of Lanc. Plead.* cxi, H. 11; see also Nicholls, *Prestwich*, 31.

It was the residence of a family named Wilson, one of whom was summoned to attend the Visitation of 1664; Dugdale, *Visit.* (Chet. Soc.), v. A pedigree is given in Booker, *Prestwich*, 216.

⁵¹ Nicholls, *Prestwich*, 34, 94-7; it is related that Sydney Smith frequently visited Sir George Philips at Sedgeley, preaching at the parish church. Lawrence Fort, calico printer, of Blackburn, the next owner, is said to have committed suicide in one of the rooms of Sedgeley

Hall in 1837, and 'curious lights are sometimes observed in the window of that room.' The house was ruined by a fire in 1902.

⁵² The following deeds of the year 1341 in Lord Wilton's possession show something of the origin of the Holland estate:—

Grant by John de Prestwich the younger to Thurstan de Holland of a piece of land called Broadclough (Bradeclache) in Prestwich, as inclosed by hedges and ditches in the time of its former owner, the grantor's grandfather, John son of Adam de Prestwich, a rent of 3s. 4d. to be paid.

Release by Richard de Radcliffe to Thurstan son of Sir William de Holland of land in Prestwich.

Release by John de Prestwich the younger of all his right in his grandfather's land called Rodoun, granted to Thurstan by Richard de Radcliffe.

Grant of a rent-charge of 3s. 4d. on Rodoun by Thurstan de Holland to John de Prestwich.

This John de Prestwich appears to be a descendant of the 'son and heir' of Adam in 1297. Ralph, son of John son of John de Prestwich, occurs in 1353; *Assize R.* 435, m. 18 d.; he and his wife Ellen claimed lands at Walton on the Hill; *ibid.* m. 33.

Thurstan de Holland acquired further lands in Prestwich in 1360, the vendors being William de Blakelow and Margery his wife; William de Beswick and Cecily his wife, and Alice widow of Henry the Falconer; *Final Conc.* ii, 165.

By an arbitration made in 1520 between Robert Langley of Agecroft and Richard Holland of Denton, it was decided that the former should enjoy all the messuages, lands, &c., which he or his ancestors had built and inclosed on the waste of Prestwich, and might also approve 4 acres of the moor adjoining the Fohcastle, but no more. The Hollands and their tenants of Heaton Hall, the ground called Rooden, and tenements near

Heaton Gate lying on the north and south side of Terrebrook, were to enjoy common of pasture on the wastes in Prestwich, and to drive their cattle to the high moor of Prestwich to common there. Robert Langley was to take down the gate he had erected in Rooden Lane end; Agecroft D. 100.

⁵³ Nicholls, *Prestwich*, 93.

⁵⁴ *Assize R.* 1444, m. 4; he was son of Alan. In 1356 Gilbert de Urmston complained that Henry de Trafford of Prestwich, Richard and Nicholas his brothers, and John de Trafford, bastard, had assaulted him at Wigan, so that his life was despaired of; *Duchy of Lanc. Assize R.* 5, m. 8.

⁵⁵ *Misc.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), i, 143, 155. Thomas Leigh of Alkrington and Katherine his wife made a settlement of their estate, including lands in Prestwich, in 1571; *Pal. of Lanc. Feet of F. bde.* 33, m. 184. Christopher Tonge made a settlement respecting his twelve messuages and lands in Prestwich in 1585; *ibid.* bde. 47, m. 17.

In 1586 Geoffrey Hardman acquired lands in Denton, Heaton, and Prestwich from Robert Holt; *ibid.* bde. 48, m. 227. Thomas Hardman contributed to the subsidy in 1622 for 'goods'; *Misc. ut sup.* Hardman's Green and Hardman's Fold exist in the northern part of the township. Adjacent is Kirkhams, commemorating Thomas Kirkham, who built the house in 1733; he was buried in the church in 1788; Booker, *Prestwich*, 38.

⁵⁶ Returns at Preston.

⁵⁷ *Pal. Note Bk.* ii, 249. For his assumption of the Prestwich baronetcy see G.E.C. *Complete Baronetage*, ii, 222.

⁵⁸ Holyrood is a fancy name, derived from Rooden Lane. For the church and a strange story as to the laying of the foundation stone see Nicholls, *Prestwich*, 142-4.

⁵⁹ Nicholls, *Prestwich*, 121. The rector (Lyon) was asked to interfere to stop the meetings, but said, 'Let them do good amongst us if they can,' and subscribed to the school.

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was built in 1877.⁶⁰ There is a small chapel at Rain-sough. The Primitive Methodists began services in a cottage at Kirkhams, and have since erected an iron chapel; the first minister was appointed in 1897.⁶¹

The Congregational Church, Rooden Lane, originated in a night school begun in 1862. The Chetham Hill church took the work up; a school-chapel was opened in 1865, and the present church in 1881.⁶²

The Roman Catholic Church of Our Lady of Grace was opened in 1891. Mass had been said for two years previously in the Co-operative Hall.⁶³

There is a Jewish cemetery, opened in 1840.⁶⁴

GREAT AND LITTLE HEATON

Heton, 1212—usual; Heiton, 1226; Hetun, Heethon, c. 1250; Heetun, 1319; Holton, Hoton, 1331—2; Heyton, 1447; Heaton (xvi cent.).

Faefeld, c. 1280; Faghfeld, 1331; Faufeld, 1344; Fawfeld, 1368; Falefelde, 1447; Faughfyld, 1586; Fallowfield, modern. Pronounced Fawfield.

These townships, mostly on high ground, which slopes away to the south-east to the River Irk, have areas respectively of 875 and 532 acres. Great Heaton has two detached portions lying on the border of Middleton, and Little Heaton has a small isolated part, occupying the extreme north-east corner of the townships. Formerly the district was called Faghfield, and the places were Heaton upon Faghfield, but in time the present Great Heaton became known as Over Heaton or Heaton Reddish, from the lords of the manor, while Little Heaton was called Heaton Fallowfield. The population in 1901 was not returned separately, but partly with Prestwich and partly with Middleton.

The surface is undulating, varying from 200 ft. to 350 ft. above sea level. The most prominent feature is the large park around Heaton House, now the property of Manchester. The chief road is that from the north of Manchester to Middleton, along the right bank of the Irk. From it roads branch off, making a circuit of the park, and another great high-

way leads to Heywood. The Lancashire and Yorkshire Company's railway from Manchester to Bury passes through the southern corner of Great Heaton, mostly by a tunnel under the park.

The townships have ceased to exist as such. In 1894 the greater part of the area was added to Prestwich for purposes of local government; the small urban district on the east, known as Rhodes, together with the detached portion of Little Heaton above mentioned, were taken into the borough of Middleton.¹ A further change was made in 1901, Heaton Park being added to Manchester, on its purchase by the Corporation.

Fifty years ago silk-weaving gave prosperity to the villages of Simister and Bow Lee, but the industry has long been extinct.²

There is a well called the Danes' Well in Simister in Little Hulton.³ A place called Clark's Cross is on the highest ground, 350 ft., in Corday Lane in Great Heaton. A curious inn sign, 'The Same Yet,' was noticeable at Great Heaton.⁴

In 1666 there were fifty hearths in Heaton liable to the tax; William Holland's house had thirteen, and Edmund Heywood's six. In Heaton Fallowfield, out of thirty-five hearths in all James Pilkington's house had six.⁵

Heaton, held in thegnage of the king, *MANORS* had before 1212 become divided into two portions, held by different families at different rents. One moiety, *GREAT HEATON*, as 4 oxgangs of land, was then held by Adam de Prestwich, and of him by Adam de Heaton, by a rent of 10s. The other moiety, *LITTLE HEATON*, also 4 oxgangs, was held by William de Radcliffe, and of him by Gilbert de Notton, of Barton, by a rent of 6s. 8d.⁶

It is difficult to trace the descent of these separate portions. Of the Prestwich moiety⁷ one portion seems to have been acquired by the Hultons,⁸ and thus passed to the Reddish family, being held by a rent of 6s. 8d.;⁹ the other 3s. 4d. may have been due from Rooden Lane in Prestwich, which seems anciently

⁶⁰ Nicholls, *Prestwich*, 122.

⁶¹ Ibid. 124.

⁶² Ibid. 125; Nightingale, *Lancs. Non-conf.* v, 26-7.

⁶³ Nicholls, op. cit. 128; Kelly, *Engl. Cath. Missions*, 323.

⁶⁴ Nicholls, loc. cit.

¹ Local Govt. Bd. Orders, 31625, 32103.

² Nicholls, *Prestwich*, 55.

³ Ibid. 147.

⁴ *Pal. Note Bk.* iii, 260.

⁵ Subs. R. bdle. 250, no. 9, Lancs.

⁶ *Lancs. Inq. and Extents* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), i, 87.

⁷ Thomas, lord of Prestwich, granted to Joan his daughter, about 1260, half of Heaton, formerly held by Thomas son of Alexander; Harl. MS. 2112, fol. 148/184. In 1346 Richard Radcliffe, then in possession of the Prestwich manor, held 'Prestwich' by a rent of 20s., &c. The rent shows that Prestwich included Heaton.

In 1325 it was found that Joan, wife of William de Holland and later of William de Multon, held the third part of a messuage and lands, and 10s. rent, in Heaton near Fallowfield, of Alice widow of Adam de Prestwich by the service of the third part of 2s.; Inq. p.m. 19 Edw. II, no. 96. Hugh the chaplain, brother and heir of

Thomas de Heaton, granted to William de Holland in 1309 all his manor of Heaton, together with the service of John son of Adam de Prestwich; Harl. MS. 2112, fol. 148/184.

Heaton is not mentioned in the later Langley inquisitions.

⁸ In 1301 Richard son of David de Hulton brought an action concerning disseisin of 4 oxgangs of land in Over Heaton against Richard de Hulton the elder (brother of David), Richard and John his sons, Adam de Radcliffe, and William and Thomas sons of Thomas de Urmston; the plaintiff claimed under a charter of his uncle Richard, who denied that it was genuine; Assize R. 418, m. 5. At the same time Agnes, David's widow, claimed dower in certain messuages and lands in Over Heaton, which were held by Richard de Hulton, senr.; *ibid.* m. 1.

In 1331 Richard son of Richard de Hulton of Reddish claimed the manor of Heaton super Fallowfield against William son of Richard de Hulton; De Banco R. 287, m. 236d. In a further pleading the plaintiff, who recovered, stated that Richard son of David de Hulton had granted the manor to his brother David, with remainder to Richard brother of David; and as David died without issue,

it should descend to Richard son of Richard; De Banco R. 294, m. 242d. Richard son of Richard de Hulton [of Hulton] was fined for opposing.

Richard de Reddish held five messuages, 100 acres of land, &c., in Heaton, formerly part of the estate of Richard de Hulton of Ordsall; Assize R. 1435, m. 40.

⁹ The township was called Heaton Reddish in 1522; *Misc.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), i, 144.

Richard de Reddish died in 1404 seised of the manor of Heaton on Fallowfield, held of the king in chief by knight's service and a rent of 6s. 8d.; *Lancs. Inq. p.m.* (Chet. Soc.), i, 80. In 1522 the tenure was called socage, the rent being 6s. 8d.; Duchy of Lanc. Inq. p.m. v, 48. This statement was repeated in 1559, when the manor was called Over Heaton on Fallowfield; *ibid.* xi, 60.

In 1613, however, the rent due from the Reddish estate (not called a manor) in Heaton was 1d. only; *Lancs. Inq. p.m.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), i, 253. By this time probably the main part of their inheritance had passed to the Hollands. It appears from the inquisition after the death of Sarah Coke in 1630 that lands in Crumpsall and Heaton Fallowfield, known

to have been charged with that rent,¹⁰ or from lands purchased by Adam de Prestwich and given to his son John,¹¹ whose descendants sold it to the Hollands of Denton.¹² This family also acquired a moiety of the Radcliffe part of Heaton,¹³ the other half apparently descending with Radcliffe;¹⁴ thus in 1346 Richard de Radcliffe and Thurstan de Holland held Heaton Fallowfield in socage by a rent of 6s. 8d., paying double as a relief; puture also was due.¹⁵ In later inquisitions the tenure is called knight's service.¹⁶

The Heaton family appear throughout the 13th century, but sold their lands to the Prestwiches and others; and part was obtained by the Hollands.¹⁷ This family became the principal one in the two townships. Their original house, known as the Old

Hall, was in Little Heaton, but about 1750 the present Heaton Hall in Great Heaton was built, and remained the seat of the family until its purchase by Manchester. A junior branch of the family was seated at Rhodes in Pilkington.¹⁸

At the beginning of the 17th century the Hollands of Denton seem to have acquired the inheritance of the Reddish family in Great Heaton,¹⁹ and from that time chose Heaton for their principal residence.²⁰ In 1684 Elizabeth, sister and heir of Edward Holland, married at Prestwich Sir John Egerton of Winehill,²¹ and her son Holland, born two years afterwards,²² inherited the manors of Heaton and Denton.²³ He was succeeded in turn by his sons, Sir Edward and Sir Thomas Grey Egerton,²⁴ and his grandson Sir Thomas

as the manor of Crumpsall, had recently been purchased from William Sedley—probably in 1608; Duchy of Lanc. Inq. p.m. xxvi, 53; Pal. of Lanc. Feet of F. bdlc. 70, no. 82.

The 'manor of Heaton' continued to descend with Reddish, and is named in a settlement by Sir Robert Coke in 1685; Pal. of Lanc. Feet of F. bdlc. 217, m. 20.

¹⁰ See the account of Prestwich.

¹¹ A grant by Robert son of Robert de Nettleham to Adam de Prestwich in 1297 is given in Harl. MS. 2112, fol. 164/200. In the same year Adam de Prestwich granted to John his son all the lands in Heaton, a hamlet of the vill of Prestwich, which he had acquired from Adam son of the widow of Heaton, and from Robert de Nettleham, with common of pasture, &c., in Awekeshowe; a rent of 40d. was payable to the grantor; Lord Wilton's D. By earlier deeds Alexander son of Adam de Heaton had granted part of his land to Christiana daughter of Alan de Harwood; the bounds touched Sandyford, Teribrook, the ancient mill-site, Ithek, Mereshawbrook, and the great road; and Thomas the son of Alexander de Heaton gave to Robert de Nettleham the same piece of land, described as lying in the vill of Heaton upon Fallowfield, a member of Prestwich; *ibid.*

¹² John de Prestwich in 1321-2 granted to John his son certain lands in Heaton in Prestwich; and in 1329 the younger John granted to his son, also John, all his lands in Heaton, Salford, and Manchester; Harl. MS. 2112, fol. 164/200. A few years later (1338) John son of John de Prestwich gave a rent of 40s., charged on his lands in Salford and Heaton, to Margaret, who had been the wife of Henry de Worsley; *ibid.* fol. 146b/182b. This was followed in 1343 by a grant to her of all his lands in Heaton; *ibid.* fol. 148/184. In 1368 and later Thurstan son of John de Prestwich made several grants and releases to Thurstan de Holland; *ibid.* 148/184, 154b/190b, 164/200.

¹³ How they acquired it is not clear, but in 1402 Richard de Holland of Denton died seised of a moiety of the manor of Heaton upon Fallowfield, holding it of the king in chief by the service of 40d. a year; Towneley MS. DD, no. 1461. The difficulty of distinguishing between the various parts of Heaton is increased by this rent being the same as that for the lands of John de Prestwich, as recorded in a preceding note.

Sir Robert de Holland in 1319 granted to Thurstan de Holland son of Margaret de Shoresworth all his lands and tenelements in demesne and lordship in Heaton on Fallowfield, and the services of all the

free tenants and others, rendering 5 marks a year for ten years and then only 1d., and rendering to the chief lords the services due; Lord Wilton's D.

About 1348 Margaret de Shoresworth recovered seisin of her free tenement in Heaton, Denton, &c., of which she alleged that Thurstan son of Sir William de Holland (and her son also) had disseised her; Assize R. 1444, m. 7 d.

¹⁴ It is not mentioned in the Radcliffe inquisitions, but from that after the death of Sarah Coke, quoted above, it appears to have been included with the Radcliffe manor of Crumpsall, and purchased by Alexander Reddish.

In 1329 Roger de Reddish made complaint against a number of persons who had carried away his goods from Heaton; De Banco R. 279, m. 391 d.

¹⁵ Add. MS. 32103, fol. 146; it is called 6 plough-lands instead of 4 oxgangs. This seems to prove that Thurstan de Holland held part of the Radcliffe manor; the charters above quoted refer to the Prestwich moiety.

¹⁶ Thus in the inquisition of Robert Holland, taken in 1514, his seven messuages, 60 acres of land, &c., in Heaton were stated to be held of the king, as of his duchy of Lancaster, by knight's service; Duchy of Lanc. Inq. p.m. iv, 58. So also a century later; *Lancs. Inq. p.m.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), ii, 141.

¹⁷ The charters previously quoted show this.

To Cocksand Abbey Alexander son of Edward de Prestwich, with the assent of Adam his heir, about 1200 gave an acre and toft of his land in Heaton, between Terebrook and Mereshaw, next to his mill; *Cocksand Chartul.* (Chet. Soc.), ii, 723. This heir was no doubt the Adam de Heaton of 1212. One charter of Alexander son of Adam de Heaton has been noticed; by another he gave to Peter son of Adam de Radcliffe his part of Puchlincheles in Heaton, the boundaries beginning at the brook and going across to the bounds of Middleton, thence to Hich and down to Puchlissale brook, and up the brook to the starting point; the rent was 40d., and a third part of the forinsic service for the vill was also due; Wilton D. Thomas de Prestwich was a witness to this grant. To Alexander, Thomas his son succeeded. In 1292 Thomas de Heaton and Joan his wife secured two messuages, a mill, and lands in Prestwich and Heaton from William son of William de Hopwood; *Final Conc.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), i, 171.

There is one other early fine relating to this township; *ibid.* i, 66.

¹⁸ A number of entries in the parish

registers referring to them are printed by Booker, *Prestwich*, 176, 177. There is a reference to them in *Visit.* of 1533 (Chet. Soc.), 218.

¹⁹ In 1619 Richard Holland's estate in Heaton was described as seven messuages, 60 acres of arable land, &c., in Heaton on Fallowfield, held of the king by knight's service; and 12 acres of land, meadow, and pasture in Over Heaton lately purchased from Oswald Mosley, tenure unknown; *Lancs. Inq. p.m.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), ii, 142, 146. A like statement was made as to his brother Edward's estate in 1636; Duchy of Lanc. Inq. p.m. xxvii, 42.

²⁰ See the account of Denton for this family; also Booker, *Denton* (Chet. Soc.), 16.

The Prestwich registers began in 1603, and the Hollands of Heaton seem to have been buried in the church from 1616 onwards. Thomas Holland, of the Old Hall in Heaton, had a son baptized in 1627, and was buried in 1651; Booker, *Prestwich*, 176, 177. As 'Holland of Heaton' they recorded a pedigree in 1664; Dugdale, *Visit.* (Chet. Soc.), 146.

²¹ Booker, *op. cit.* 178. Sir John Egerton and Elizabeth his wife were the deforciant in a fine concerning the manors of Denton, Heaton, &c., in 1685; Pal. of Lanc. Feet of F. bdlc. 214, m. 41. For Sir John Egerton and his family see G.E.C. *Complete Baronetage*, i, 108. Lady Elizabeth died in 1701.

²² Baptized at Prestwich 6 Jan. 1686-7, having been born 18 Dec. 1686; the younger children of the marriage do not appear in the Prestwich registers. On entering Brasenose College, Oxford, in 1704, he was called fifteen years of age; Foster, *Alumni*. He succeeded his father as fourth baronet in 1729.

²³ In 1711 a settlement of the manors of Heaton, Denton, &c., had been made, Holland Egerton and his brother Edward being deforciant in the fine; Pal. of Lanc. Feet of F. bdlc. 267, m. 34. Sir Holland was a distinguished antiquary. He appears to have resided usually at Heaton Hall, as his children were baptized at Prestwich. He died at Heaton, 25 Apr. 1730, and was buried at Madeley.

²⁴ Sir Edward Egerton, the fourth son, was baptized 2 June 1719; matriculated at Oxford (Brasenose College), 1736; Foster, *Alumni*. He died of smallpox, unmarried, on 16 Feb. 1743-4; his monument in Prestwich Church records the virtues by which he adorned an ancient and illustrious family.

His brother and successor, Sir Thomas Grey Egerton, was baptized 7 Nov. 1721, and entered Brasenose College in 1740.

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Egerton, created Earl of Wilton in 1801.²⁵ His daughter and sole heir Eleanor married Robert, Earl Grosvenor, afterwards Marquis of Westminster, and the Heaton estates went to her second son, Thomas, born in 1799, who by a special remainder succeeded his maternal grandfather in 1814 as second Earl of Wilton. He assumed the name of Egerton, and dying in 1882,²⁶ was succeeded by his eldest surviving son, Arthur Edward Holland Grey Egerton, who died without issue in 1885. His heir was his brother, Seymour John Grey Egerton, fourth earl. He died in 1898, and his son, Arthur George Egerton, in 1901 sold Heaton Park and some adjacent lands to the Corporation of Manchester, the price being £230,000. All rights, such as minerals, &c., were included in the purchase. The park was opened to the public on 24 September, 1902.²⁷

Heaton House stands on an elevated situation in Heaton Park, and was built in 1772 by Sir Thomas Egerton (afterwards first Earl of Wilton), James Wyatt being the architect. It is a low classic structure facing south with a circular projection in the centre surmounted by a dome, and east and west wings connected with the main building by colonnades.²⁸ There is a circular temple to the south-east of the house, and later extensions were made on the east side by the addition of conservatories. The building, in which the Ionic order is used, is a good specimen of the early work of Wyatt, and is now used by the Manchester Corporation for exhibition and other purposes in connection with the park.

The land tax returns of 1787 show that Lord Grey de Wilton paid about half the sums collected from Great and from Little Heaton.²⁹

In 1852 the whole of the land in Great Heaton belonged to the Earl of Wilton, except one cottage

with its garden plot; 'this cottage, situated at Catty green, is claimed by the township as the representative of its former owner, who upwards of a century ago, mysteriously disappeared, leaving no traces of his destination, and, what is more remarkable, no heirs to succeed to his property.'³⁰ This lies on the edge of a detached portion of Great Heaton, as also do parts of Bow Lee and Rhodes.³¹ Of Bow Lee, however, it is said that the cottages built there about 1800 stood on neutral ground, no decision being given as to whether they were in Prestwich or in Middleton; hence they escaped local rates, and no relief was given by either parish.³²

In Little Heaton the hamlet of Simisters Lane takes its names from James Somister, who about 1730 purchased a small farm there, and prospering, afterwards added three others, his estate reaching 52 acres. He died in 1780.³³

From a feoffment of 1681 it appears that Robert Lever of Alkrington owned the old hall of Heaton, with its demesne lands.³⁴

For the worship of the Established Church All Saints' was built at Rhodes in 1864; the rector of Middleton is the patron. There is attached the school church of St. Thomas, Bow Lee.

ALKRINGTON

Alkinton, 1212; Alkeryngton, 1313; Alcrinton, 1324; Alkryngton, 1443.

This township is bounded on the south-west by a brook running into the Irk, and by the Irk itself and its affluent the Wince Brook for the most part on the north. The surface is mostly above the 300 ft. level, but slopes downwards to the bounding brooks.¹ The highest ground, 350 ft., is in the south-east and north-

He was one of the Tory members for Newton, 1747 to 1754; Pink and Beaven, *Parl. Repr. of Lancs.* 289. He died at Heaton 8 July 1756, and was buried at Prestwich, his epitaph stating that he was pressed to continue to represent Newton, 'but preferring the satisfaction of a private station declined it and retired to his country seat, where he made great improvements, and lived usefully, hospitably, and charitably amongst his neighbours.' Some of his benefactions are recorded in the account of the charities. His widow Katherine, a daughter of the Rev. John Copley, fellow of Manchester, lived till 1791.

²⁵ He was baptized 10 June 1749, at Prestwich; educated at Christ Church, Oxford; M.A. 1769; Foster, *Alumni*; knight of the shire for Lancashire, 1772 to 1784, being a Tory; Pink and Beaven, op. cit. 86-7; created Baron Grey de Wilton in 1784, and Viscount Grey de Wilton and Earl of Wilton of Wilton Castle, Herefordshire, in 1801, this creation having a special remainder, failing his issue male, to the second and younger sons of his daughter in tail male; G.E.C. *Complete Peerage*, viii, 161. In 1779 he paid a rent of 6s. 8d. for the manor of Heaton; Duchy of Lanc. Rentals, 14, 25 m. In the same year he raised a corps of infantry—the Royal Lancashire Volunteers—the expenses being borne by himself and other private persons; Drill Field, between High Bank and Sedgley Park, being used for one of the companies for drill. He was commander of the regiment as lieutenant-colonel. It was disbanded in 1783, but

another was afterwards raised, of which Lord Wilton was colonel; he accompanied it to Ireland, and was stationed at Dublin Castle in 1801, at the proclamation of the Union; Nicholls, *Prestwich*, 57-63. He died 23 Sept. 1814, and was buried at Prestwich; his countess, Eleanor, a daughter and co-heir of Sir Ralph Assheton of Middleton, died 3 Feb. 1816.

²⁶ G.E.C. *Complete Peerage*, loc. cit. He was a keen sportsman, being fond of hunting and yachting; for a few years, 1827 to 1838, races were held at Heaton Park. He was also devoted to music, encouraged glee-singing, and was a good organist; Nicholls, *Prestwich*, 42-8, with portrait. He composed the tune called 'Prestwich.' His countess, a daughter of the twelfth Earl of Derby by his second wife, Miss Farren, was the Lady Bountiful of the district, 'idolized by the gentry and tenantry, as well as by the poorest.'

Private Acts of Parliament concerning the disposition of the estates were passed in 5 Geo. IV, cap. 11, and 1 Vict. cap. 37.

²⁷ Nicholls, op. cit. 111-15. The full extent of the purchase is 693 acres. There is a herd of deer in the park.

²⁸ There is a brief description of the hall, with a view (1795), in Aikin, *Country Round Manob.* 236.

²⁹ Returns at Preston. There was no other considerable holder, but in 1784 Sir Assheton Lever had paid a quarter of the tax for Little Heaton.

³⁰ Booker, *Prestwich*, 78.

³¹ Richard son of Thomas the Choffer of the Rhodes (Rodis) demised for life to John the Keuer a house with inclosed

curtilage and a piece of land on which Richard's chamber formerly stood; this was in 1336; Lord Wilton's D.

³² Booker, op. cit. 81. Bow Lee Common is in a detached part of Little Heaton; Bow Lee Farm in Middleton.

In 1587 Richard Holland of Denton, being by descent seized of a moiety of the manor of Heaton and a third part of a certain waste ground called the 'Balle Lye,' parcel of the said manor, in the parishes of Prestwich and Middleton, complained that while certain of his tenants dug turves in the Balle Lye, according to custom, John Hopwood, Isabel Hopwood, and others had entered Balle Lye by night and cut those turves in pieces, claiming the ground, or at least common of turbary therein, by certain deeds of which they had possessed themselves; Duchy of Lanc. Plead. cxlii, H. 4. The Hopwoods of Rhodes Green are noticed in Booker, op. cit. 230.

³³ Ibid. 80.

³⁴ Raines D. (Chet. Lib.). In a later deed (1699) in the same collection Robert Lever speaks of the dwelling house purchased from Thomas Hilton, the lands purchased from (1) James Lightbown, (2) John Dautesey, Otho Holland, and Robert Ravald, and (3) Robert Johnson, all in Heaton; as well as others in Prestwich, purchased from Edmund Ashton. As early as 1621, however, Robert Lever of Darcy Lever had held lands in Heaton Fallowfield of the king in socage; *Lancs. Inq. p.m.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), ii, 255-7.

¹ Ordnance Survey.

east. The area is 797½ acres. The population in 1901 was returned with Middleton.²

The principal road is that leading north from Manchester to Middleton; the hall is in the triangle to the west of this road. Part of the White Moss occupied the south-east corner. There is a colliery.³

For local government the township was in 1894 added to the borough of Middleton.⁴

In 1839 a house in the 'Spaw' at Alkrington was said to be haunted.⁵ Some extracts from the diary of a local farmer, 1774 to 1778, have been printed.⁶

No house had as many as six hearths in 1666; the total number of taxable hearths in the township was twenty-seven.⁷

The survey of 1212 gives the earliest *MANOR* account of the manor of *ALKRINGTON*.

At that time it was a member of the Montbegon fee of eight knights, and was held by Adam de Prestwich as 4 oxgangs of land 'of ancient tenure' by 4s.; while placed among the manors held by knight's service, it thus appears as a thegnage estate.⁸ The Montbegon fee was some twenty years later alienated to the Lacys, and thus passed to the Crown; but the manor of Alkrington continued to descend with Prestwich,⁹ the tenure being changed to the

twenty-fourth part of a knight's fee, with a rent of 10d. The inquisitions, however, do not state the tenure quite uniformly.¹⁰

On the death of Sir Robert Langley, in 1561, this manor was given to his daughter Katherine, who married Thomas Legh of Lyme, but died in 1591 without issue.¹¹ The Leghs, however, appear to have retained the manor, for it was sold in 1627 by Thomas Legh, Alice his wife, and John Legh, to Robert and John Lever.¹² The purchasers were probably younger sons of Robert Lever of Darcy Lever, who died in 1620.¹³ Robert Lever, his son, was a clothier in London, and died unmarried about 1642; John Lever, another son, was 'of Alkrington,' and died in 1645, being buried at Middleton.¹⁴ His eldest son Robert married Anne the daughter and heir of Nicholas Mosley of Collyhurst, and died in 1710, a very aged man.¹⁵ His son John died in 1718, and was succeeded by his son Sir Darcy Lever, who served as high sheriff in 1736, and was



LEVER. *Argent two bendlets sable, the undermost engrailed.*

² Pop. Rep. 1901.

³ For an accident in 1774 see *Lancs. and Ches. Antig. Soc.* vii, 68.

⁴ Local Govt. Bd. Order 31625; the population was given as 565.

⁵ *Manch. Guardian Local N. and Q.* no. 739.

⁶ *Ibid.* no. 1244.

⁷ Subs. R. bdle. 250, no. 9, Lancs.

⁸ *Lancs. Inq. and Extents* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), i, 61.

⁹ It was included in the settlement of the Prestwich estate in 1313; *Final Conc.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), ii, 16.

In 1276 and later years Adam son of Thomas de Prestwich had to defend his right to certain land in Alkrington, to which Robert Grelley laid claim; *De Banco R.* 15, m. 36d.; 18, m. 29; 24, m. 20.

¹⁰ In the *De Lacy Inq.* of 1311 (Chet. Soc.) Adam de Prestwich was returned as holding of the Earl of Lincoln the manor of Alkrington by the service of the fourth part of a knight's fee, and suit to the court; p. 19. From later notices it appears that 'fourth' is an error for 'twenty-fourth.'

Alice de Prestwich was in 1324 said to hold half a plough-land in Alkrington by the service of 12d. a year; *Duchy of Lanc. Rentals and Surv.* 379, no. 13. In 1346 the heirs of John de Radcliffe and Alice de Prestwich were said to hold it in socage by a rent of 12d.; *Dods. MSS.* lxxxvii, fol. 60b. A similar return was made a century later, Margaret wife of Roger (Thomas) Langley then holding it in socage, rendering 12d. a year; she said she held it by joint feoffment and showed a charter; *Duchy of Lanc. Knights' Fees*, 2/20. In explanation of this the inquisition taken in 1447 after the death of Robert Langley of Agecroft states that he had held a moiety of the manor of Alkrington of the king as Duke of Lancaster in socage by a rent of 20d., and that he had enfeoffed Thomas his son and Margery his wife of two parts of the said moiety; *Lancs. Rec. Inq. p.m.* no. 34, 35. After the death of Thomas Langley,

twenty-five years later, he was said to have held nine messuages and tenements, 'parcel of the manor of Alkrington,' by the twentieth part of a knight's fee, the manor being held by knight's service and a rent of 20d.; *Agecroft D.* Thus both the tenure and the rent are variously stated at different times; but the latest — by knight's service and 20d. — was repeated after the death of Sir Robert Langley in 1561; *Duchy of Lanc. Inq. p.m.* xi, 16. The clear value at this time was £7.

¹¹ *Duchy of Lanc. Inq. p.m.* xv, 12. This recites that Katherine married Thomas Legh (who survived her) at Alkrington on 1 Aug. 1564. She had twenty-two messuages, &c., in Alkrington and Prestwich, held of the queen as of the Duchy of Lancaster by knight's service, those in the former place also rendering 6s. and those in the latter 9s. a year. The heirs were her sisters Anne Dautesey and Margaret Holland, aged fifty-four and fifty-two years. A settlement was made in 1571; *Pal. of Lanc. Feet of F. bdle.* 33, m. 184.

In 1581 Thomas Legh and Katherine his wife, setting forth that they were seised in fee tail of the manor of Alkrington, &c., complained that Robert Langley of Prestwich was detaining some of the deeds of the estate. Langley replied that the deeds were in the keeping of Alexander Reddish, son of Margery, then wife of Richard Holland, and that Katherine had agreed to this; *Duchy of Lanc. Plead.* cxxii, L. 4; cxvii, L. 4.

¹² Thomas Legh seems to have married a second time, for in the pedigree recorded in 1613 four sons are given him — Robert, John, Roger, and Thomas; *Visit.* (Chet. Soc.), 51. Robert Legh of Alkrington appears among the freeholders of 1600; *Misc.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), i, 246. He was buried at Middleton 19 Aug. 1623. The vendors in 1627 were, perhaps, his brothers; *Pal. of Lanc. Feet of F. bdle.* 111, no. 38. Further particulars of the family are given in the will of Thomas Legh of Alkrington, dated

22 Oct. 1597. It recites an indenture of 25 March 1596-7 between himself and Edmund Trafford of Trafford, that the latter was to pay him £700. Of this sum £300 was left to Thomas Legh, 'my reputed son,' while John and Roger Legh, two other reputed sons, had £400 between them. He also names his daughters Creature and Margaret Legh and Elizabeth reputed daughter of his son Robert Legh. Brother James Legh was to have a dapple dunn nagge and son Robert Legh his gold chain. The executrix was his wife Katherine, who was guardian of the children, with his loving brother-in-law, Sir Ric. Shuttleworth. Probate was dated at Chester 7 Feb. 1597-8; *Huntroide D.* v, 20 (by Mr. H. Ince Anderton).

¹³ *Dugdale, Visit.* (Chet. Soc.), 186; a full pedigree of the Lever family is contained in Piccoper's *MS. Pedigrees* (Chet. Lib.), i, 348, and has been followed here. There is also an account of the family, with extracts from the registers, in *Booker, Prestwich*, 204-8.

¹⁴ *Ibid.* 206. John Lever paid £12 10s. in 1631 on declining knighthood; *Misc.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), i, 215.

¹⁵ *Booker*, loc. cit. He was dispensed from attendance at Prestwich Church and allowed to go to Middleton; *Gastrell, Notitia*, ii, 109.

A feoffment made in 1681 shows that Robert Lever held the manor of Alkrington, with the hall, the Old Hall of Heaton in Prestwich, Gorton Hall, Collyhurst Hall, and lands in a number of the surrounding townships. In 1699 he made a settlement of his estates with remainders to his children Robert, John, Catherine, and Jane. The deeds are among the Raines collection in the Chetham Library.

A Captain Lever of 'Olerington' is mentioned in 1689; *Hist. MSS. Com. Rep.* xiv, App. iv, 222.

Robert and John sons of Robert Lever of Alkrington entered Brasenose College, Oxford, in 1691, aged eighteen and fifteen respectively; they were afterwards of Gray's Inn; *Foster, Alumni*. Robert died in his father's lifetime, unmarried.

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knighted.¹⁶ He married Dorothy, a daughter and co-heir of the Rev. William Ashton, rector of Prestwich.¹⁷

Their eldest son, Sir Ashton Lever, was high sheriff in 1771,¹⁸ and made a knight in 1778, and died ten years later without issue. He collected a large museum of curiosities, which was exhibited at his residence at Alkrington. Wishing at length to dispose of it, he obtained an Act of Parliament authorizing him to do so by a lottery, and in 1785 the drawing took place. The winner afterwards exhibited the collection in London, and it was not dispersed until 1806.¹⁹ Sir Ashton was succeeded by his brother the Rev. John Lever, who left several children.²⁰ The younger son, John, settled at Alkrington, and died in 1834, aged sixty-two. The estate then

passed to his nephew Dorning Rasbotham, who in 1844 sold it to John Lees and his brothers of Clark's Field near Oldham.²¹ Their representatives continue to hold the manor and most of the land, but the hall has been sold. It is a plain but well-designed brick house erected in 1736 on the site of an older building by Sir Darcy Lever. The situation was formerly one of much picturesqueness, being on elevated ground in the midst of woods and overlooking Heaton Park, and despite many changes in the surroundings it still retains some of its former characteristics. The general effect of the principal front is now somewhat spoiled by the removal of the old window bars and the substitution of plate glass, but it is still one of much dignity. The hipped roof is partly concealed by a high brick parapet.



ALKRINGTON HALL

¹⁶ Darcy Lever entered Brasenose College in 1722, being seventeen years of age; he was created D.C.L. in 1733; Foster, *Alumni*. He made a settlement of the manor of Alkrington in Mar. 1725, previous to his marriage; Pal. of Lanc. Feet of F. bde. 293; *ibid.* Plea R. 520, m. 5, 7. He was appointed sheriff 31 Dec. 1735, and his successor on 20 Jan. 1737; P.R.O. *List*, 74.

The pedigree of the family is set out in the case of Lever v. Hunt, which was carried up to the House of Lords in 1736-7. It appeared that John Hunt of Manchester had in 1612 leased premises in Market Street Lane, Manchester, for 120 years to Robert Lever of Darcy Lever, clothier, who left it to his son John. In 1642 and 1644 John Lever obtained the reversion of the premises, and died intestate in 1645; his widow Catherine afterwards entered into possession and left them to a younger son John, who had them for life, and was followed by his son, who died without issue. Robert the eldest son was followed by his only son John, who gave the premises to

a younger son John Revel; on his death, without issue, Sir Darcy Lever claimed as brother and heir. John Andrews claimed as the heir of the Robert Lever of 1612.

¹⁷ The marriage took place at Prestwich 3 May 1725; and Sir Darcy Lever was buried there on 15 Aug. 1742; Booker, 207.

¹⁸ P.R.O. *List*, 74.

Ashton Lever was vouchee in a recovery of the manor in 1753; Pal. of Lanc. Plea R. 579, m. 2.

¹⁹ There is an engraving of him in Baines, *Lancs.* (ed. 1836), ii, 565, a verbal portrait in Booker, op. cit. 205, and a biography in *Dict. Nat. Biog.*

He was educated at Corpus Christi College, Oxford, matriculating in 1748, at nineteen years of age; Foster, *Alumni*. He died at Manchester, not without suspicion of having poisoned himself.

His collection began with live birds, and went on to shells, fossils, &c., and to the weapons, &c., of savage tribes. In 1773, 'being tired out with the insolence of the common people,' he restricted admis-

sion to his acquaintance and those who came provided with a ticket from some one known to him; Booker, op. cit. 204. On 29 Aug. 1774 the visitors to the museum numbered 3,320; *Manch. Guardian Local N. and Q.* no. 1244. The collection was removed to London in October and shown at Leicester House; in 1782 the sum of £2,253 was received for entrance fees. Sir Ashton wished it to be kept together, and having failed to induce the Government to purchase it for the British Museum he fell back on the lottery; *Hist. MSS. Com. Rep.* xiv, App. iv, 516. See also Pal. Note Bk. ii, 55, 85; Walford, *Old and New Lond.* iii, 165. For an account of the sale in 1806 see Baines, *ut sup.*

A poem on the collection, dated 1774, is reprinted in *Oldham Notes and Glean.* ii, 99.

²⁰ The eldest son Darcy Lever, who died at Edinburgh in 1839, wrote on navigation; see *Dict. Nat. Biog.*

²¹ Canon Raines in Gastrell, *Notitia* (Chet. Soc.), ii, 110.

Bradshaw Hall lies in the north-east part of the township, in a plot cut off from the main area by Wince Brook. It was anciently part of the lands of the Hospitallers, and was afterwards granted to the Earls of Derby, of whom it was held in the early part of the 17th century by a branch of the Chadderton family.²²

TONGE

Tonge, 1392, usual; Tong, 1482.

This township occupies, as its name implies, a tongue of land between the Irk on the north and its affluent, the Wince Brook, on the south. The area is 392 acres. The surface is mostly above the 300 ft. level—360 ft. is reached at Mills Hill¹—sloping down to the streams named. The population in 1901 was included with Middleton.²

The principal roads are those branching out from Middleton, to the east to Oldham and to the south-east to Hollinwood and Failsworth. Dwelling-houses have spread out along these roads, so that the township has long been a suburb of Middleton, to which borough it was added for local government purposes in 1861.³ In 1894 Tonge lost its status as a township or civil parish, and became completely merged in Middleton.^{3a}

The Lancashire and Yorkshire Railway Company's line from Manchester to Rochdale passes through the eastern side, with a branch to Middleton, opened in 1857. From this the part of Tonge called Middleton Junction takes its name, though the junction itself is in Chadderton. Middleton station is in Tonge. A light railway is laid along the road from Middleton to Oldham. The Manchester and Rochdale canal touches the eastern border.

In this township there were only fifteen hearths liable to the tax in 1666; no house had more than two.⁴

Originally TONGE seems to have been a part of Alkrington, and is not called a manor. It was, therefore, part of the Prestwich lands, and does not come into notice for some time after these lands had descended to the Langleys of Agecroft. In 1390 a Henry de Alkrington died, holding of the king by knight's service two messuages and certain lands in Alkrington called Tonge.⁵ From the inquisition and subsequent pleadings it appears that Henry was descended from Thomas the son of Adam de Prestwich, whose daughters and heirs left no legitimate offspring.⁶ It would appear that Thomas had a natural son named Henry for whom he made provision by granting this outlying part of his manor of Alkrington. Henry's son Henry died, as stated, in 1390, leaving a son Henry, only eighteen months old.⁷ He proved his age in 1412, and had livery of his lands;⁸ afterwards he took Tonge as his surname, and his descendants continued in possession until the 18th century.

Henry de Tonge in 1437-8 laid claim to the Prestwich inheritance, but illegitimacy was asserted as a defence.⁹ He died before 1470, when his son Richard had to claim his inheritance against Thomas Langley of Agecroft, who had expelled him.¹⁰ The suit was still proceeding in 1482, when John Langley and Richard Tonge stated their claims.¹¹ In 1498 Richard assigned a portion of his lands in Tonge to feoffees in view of the marriage of his son Thomas with Margaret daughter of Thomas Newton; he died two years afterwards, holding various lands of the king as Duke of Lancaster, by knight's service. His son and heir Thomas was then eighteen years of age.¹²

Thomas duly proved his age in 1504.¹³ Three years later it was awarded that Robert Langley and his tenants in Alkrington should enjoy common of pasture in Tonge Moor, but turbary was denied except to certain tenants named.¹⁴ In 1527 Thomas Tonge granted to Robert Langley a part of the moor, with common of pasture, turbary and marl.¹⁵ The

²² Children of Edmund Chadderton *alias* Bradshaw appear in the Middleton registers from 1615.

Robert Chadderton, yeoman, died 8 Mar. 1638-9, holding a messuage and land called Bradshaw in Alkrington, of William, Earl of Derby, as of the dissolved priory of St. John of Jerusalem; he also held lands in Audenshaw and in Manchester. By a fine levied two years earlier the lands were settled on Robert for his life, after his decease a third part to Elizabeth his wife, then to Edmund and Robert his sons. Edmund the son and heir was thirty-one years of age in 1639; Inq. p.m. in Towneley MS. C. 8, 13 (Chet. Lib.), p. 248.

Robert Chadderton *alias* Bradshaw was buried at Middleton on 8 Mar. 1638-9; an abstract of his will is given in *Manch. Ct. Leet Rec.* iv, 114.

Thomas Chadderton of Alkrington paid to the land tax in 1787.

The Hospitallers had lands in Acrinton (? Alkrington) in 1292; *Plac. de Quo War.* (Rec. Com.), 375.

¹ O.S.

² *Pop. Ret.* 1901.

³ By the Middleton and Tonge Improvement Act.

^{3a} By Local Govt. Bd. Order 31625 of 1894.

⁴ Subs. R. bdle. 250, no. 9, Lancs.

⁵ *Lancs. Inq. p.m.* (Chet. Soc.), i, 57,

58, where several illustrative documents are printed.

In Feb. 1356-7, Henry son of Henry son of Thomas demanded against John de Radcliffe the elder and Joan his wife, 24 acres in Prestwich; and against Alice, widow of Thomas de Prestwich, 12 acres in the same town; Duchy of Lanc. Assize R. 5, m. 4.

⁶ See the account of Prestwich.

⁷ *Lancs. Inq. p.m.* (Chet. Soc.), i, 57. Henry the son was baptized in Middleton Church, 5 Oct. 1388.

⁸ *Dep. Keeper's Rep.* xxxvii, App. 174.

⁹ *Lancs. Inq. p.m.* i, 58.

¹⁰ Pal. of Lanc. Plea R. 37, m. 12 d; Henry Tonge, father of Richard, was seised of two messuages, 50 acres of land, 6 acres of meadow, and 4 acres of wood called Tonge, in the vill of Prestwich, and of 100 acres of moor called Tonge Moor. After the death of Henry, Richard entered, until Thomas Langley, John Langley, and others expelled him. The Langleys, in reply, quoted the fine of 1313 respecting the descent of the Prestwich lands.

In 1450-1 Richard Tonge, 'yeoman,' had been charged with felony by Thomas Langley; *ibid.* R. 17, m. 16. Later, Richard had to complain that Edmund Ashton and various others of Chadderton had taken turf in his several turbary; *ibid.* R. 51, m. 7 d.

Abstracts of the Tonge title deeds are contained in Raines MSS. (Chet. Lib.), xiii, 172-81.

¹¹ Agecroft D. 85; the fine of 1313 was again referred to, and Richard Tonge asserted the legitimacy of his descent from Thomas son of Alice de Wolweley. See also Pal. of Lanc. Writs Proton. file 22 Edw. IV, a.

¹² Duchy of Lanc. Inq. p.m. iii, 81; the estate is described as three messuages, 50 acres of land, &c., and 100 acres of moss and moor called Tonge Moor *alias* Tonge in Prestwich. The bounds of the portion given to the daughter-in-law's trustees mentioned the 'little oak marked,' the 'water of Irk,' and the Fyne meadow in Middleton. Richard died 19 Apr. 1500; his son reached eighteen years of age on the following Michaelmas, and was already married.

¹³ *Dep. Keeper's Rep.* xl, App. 544.

¹⁴ Agecroft D. 95.

¹⁵ *Ibid.* 102. In 1556 Sir Robert Langley granted an acre of Tonge Moor, at a rent of 12d. to Mary, widow of Ralph Standish, and Edward, brother of Ralph; *ibid.* 122.

The date of Thomas's death is given as 16 Feb. 1542; the estate remained unchanged; the son and heir was John Tonge, aged thirty; H. Fishwick in *Lancs. and Chet. Antiq. Soc.* x, 28, quoting the Inq. p.m.

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next of the family known is John Tonge, the son of Thomas, who died in 1551, holding various lands in Tonge of the king by the hundredth part of a knight's fee; Richard his son and heir was only two years of age.¹⁶ Richard died at the end of 1568, being still in wardship; he left a son Christopher, two years of age, about whose legitimacy there was some doubt, and apart from whom the heirs were Richard's sisters Ellen, Jane, and Dorothy, aged twenty-one, nineteen, and nineteen years.¹⁷



TONGE. *Azure a bend between two cotises argent and six martlets or.*

Christopher's right must have been established, for he held possession of the estates in Prestwich, Middleton, Tonge, and Alkrington.¹⁸ In 1590 he made provision for the jointure of Jane daughter of William Bamford, whom he married. He died 10 February 1600-1, and was buried at Middleton. Richard the son and heir was not quite three years old.¹⁹ In 1631 he paid £10 after refusing knighthood.²⁰ From this time little can be said of the family, except the details in the pedigree;²¹ its members do not appear to have taken any conspicuous part in the Civil War

or the Revolution. Richard Tonge, who died in 1713, bequeathed his newly-purchased lands in Hopwood to his elder son Jonathan, subject to an annuity of £20 a year to his wife Alice, and a sum of £500 to his younger son Thomas, then a minor.²² In spite of this bequest he appears to have died insolvent, and the executors refusing to act, administration of his estate was granted to creditors. By his second wife he left two sons, Jonathan and Thomas, of whom the latter had issue. The son Jonathan in 1725 demised his estate to his brother Thomas, with instructions to sell it.²³ In the following year it was purchased by John Starky of Heywood,²⁴ whose grandson James Starky in 1846 left it to his relatives, Mrs. Hornby of St. Michael's, and Joseph Langton of Liverpool.²⁵ The trustees of the late Charles Langton are stated to be the present lords of the manor and chief landowners.

Tonge Hall passed through several hands. About 1890 it was purchased by Mr. Asheton Tonge of Alderley, stated to be a descendant of the old family.²⁶ The hall, a picturesque fragment of a black and white timber and plaster house standing on a low stone base, is now completely dismantled, and in a sad state of decay and dilapidation. The house was originally of much greater extent, and a drawing of the building as it was about 1845²⁷ shows that the

¹⁶ Duchy of Lanc. Inq. p.m. ix, 7; the will of John Tonge is recited, as well as the provision for his wife, Dorothy daughter of Roger Downes. His wife, son, and three daughters are mentioned in the will; his half-brother Richard was to have sufficient turf from the moss in Tonge to burn in his house, and thirty loads of thorns.

In 1547 there had been a dispute between Edmund Chadderton and John Tonge (and others), as to turbary on the moor; *Ducatus Lanc.* (Rec. Com.), i, 223.

John Tonge died 31 July 1551, and was buried at Middleton on 6 Aug. The wardship and marriage of Richard, the heir, were granted to Thurstan Rawstorne; *Dep. Keeper's Rep.* xxxix, App. 561.

¹⁷ Duchy of Lanc. Inq. p.m. xii, 9. No reason is given for the qualification 'if not admitted by law,' respecting Christopher.

Richard died 10 Nov. 1568, and immediately afterwards Margaret his widow, the daughter of James Heywood, made a claim under a marriage settlement against Elizabeth Heywood, widow; *Ducatus Lanc.* (Rec. Com.), ii, 371.

¹⁸ During his minority the wardship was granted to Gilbert Sherington, and by him transferred to Thomas Legh of Alkrington. The latter gave Christopher to understand that his uncle Peter Heywood would do nothing for him, whereby his lands would be lost, and prevailed on the youth of fifteen to marry 'a notorious harlot,' Katherine Jackson, by whom Thomas Legh had had several children. A divorce was granted in 1583; *H. Fishwick* as above (p. 29), quoting a deed in *Raises MSS.* xiii, 174.

¹⁹ Duchy of Lanc. Inq. p.m. xviii, 14, in which the marriage settlements are set forth. The estate is described as twelve messuages, a cottage, twelve gardens, two orchards, 80 acres of lands, &c., in Tonge, &c. The remainders after Christopher's issue were to Jane, his aunt, Gervase Utterus son of Ellen, another aunt, and Margaret sister of Gervase. Some field

names are given, as Bent Meadow, Cross Field, and Rye Hill. Besides his sons Richard and Ashton he had daughters Mary, Jane, and Winifred.

Immediately after his death disputes arose as to lands leased to the Hiltons; *Ducatus Lanc.* (Rec. Com.), iii, 461.

Richard son of Christopher Tonge was baptized at Middleton 7 May 1598.

²⁰ *Misc.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), i, 215.

Richard Tonge was buried at Middleton 3 Apr. 1678.

²¹ A pedigree was recorded in 1664; *Dugdale, Visit.* (Chet. Soc.), 303. It begins with Christopher Tonge, and shows the descent through Richard to his son Jonathan, aged 28, who had a son Richard, aged six.

Jonathan son of Mr. Richard Tonge was baptized at Middleton, 12 Aug. 1636. He was married to Sarah Whitehead, at Prestwich, on 27 June 1655, and was buried at Middleton 25 May 1680. His son Richard is named in the text.

²² *Booker, Prestwich*, 209, 210. The author remarks: 'Though a family of note it does not appear that arms were ever granted to them. . . . From an impression of the seal of Richard Tonge in the latter part of the 17th century he appears to have borne a bend cotised between six martlets.' These arms were recorded in 1664 according to the printed *Visitation*, which is not quite trustworthy from the letter S onward.

²³ *Col. Fishwick's* article, as above (p. 31).

²⁴ The deed is enrolled at Preston, R. 12 of Geo. I; see *Piccope MSS.* (Chet. Lib.), iii, 230. The price named is £4,350.

The pedigree is thus given: John Starky, d. 1749—s. John, d. 1780—s. James, high sheriff, 1791, d. 1846; *Heywood N. and Q.* (ed. Green), iii, 35.

James Starky in 1795 paid more than half the land tax for Tonge; there was no other considerable holder; *Returns at Preston*.

²⁵ Canon Raines in *Gastrell, Notitia Cestr.*, ii, 110. From the pedigree of the Langton family in *Foster, Lancs. Pedigrees*, it appears that Joseph Starky, M.D., of Redvales, Bury, younger son of John Starky, the purchaser of Royton, had two daughters—Mary, who married William Langton, and was succeeded by her son Joseph and grandson Charles; and Anne, who married the Rev. Hugh Hornby of St. Michael's.

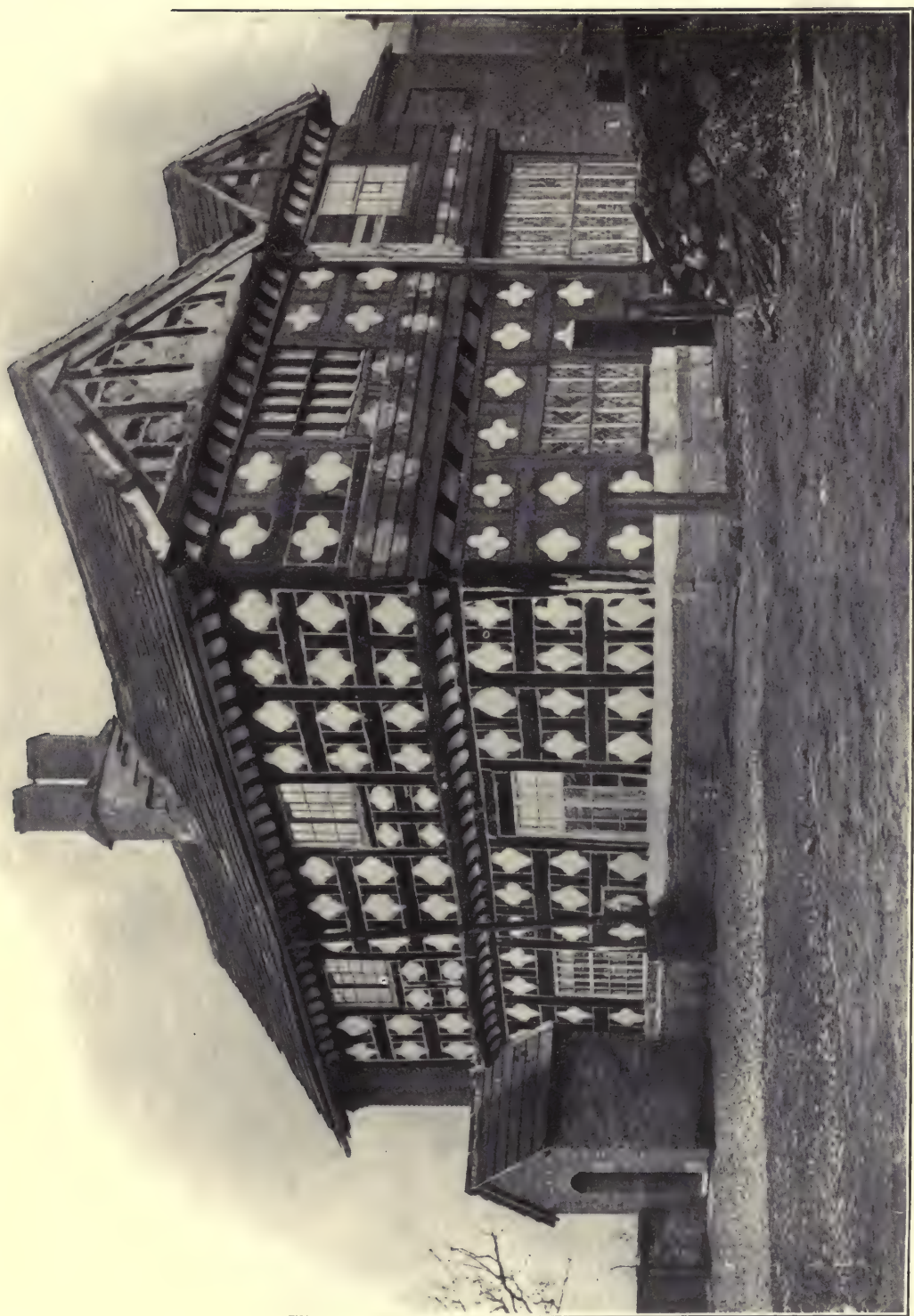
²⁶ *Fishwick*, loc. cit.

For the pedigree see *Booker*, op. cit. 212, and *Gen. Mag.* iii, 349, 406, where it is shown that the last Richard Tonge was thrice married—(i) in 1681 to Esther daughter of William Richardson of Crompton; (ii) in 1691 to Jane daughter of Thomas Percival of Royton and widow of John Gilliam; (iii) in 1699 to Alice daughter of Benjamin Wrigley of Chamber Hall.

The Tonge family had several branches. Henry Tonge of Farnworth died in 1614, holding lands in Farnworth, Kearsley, and Worsley, leaving his brother John as heir; *Lancs. Inq. p.m.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), i, 283.

In 1722 administration of the goods of Richard Tonge of Middleton was granted to his brother Ashton Tonge. In the following year administration of the goods of Ashton Tonge of Tonge, weaver, were granted to his widow Dorothy. In 1772 administration of the goods of Ashton Tonge of Worsley, carpenter, were granted to his widow Jane. The will of Richard Tonge of Worsley, yeoman, was proved in 1798; it mentions his shares in ships, a blacklead pencil factory at Worsley, and various lands, including a house in Deansgate, Manchester; Mary his wife, and Thomas Fletcher his brother-in-law, were two of the executors. Jane Tonge of Worsley, widow, by her will of 1808 left her estate to her four daughters.

²⁷ *Lancs. and Ches. Antiq. Soc.* x; in *Booker, Prestwich*, is another view, dated 1852.



TONGE HALL

whole of the west end, including a projecting porch and gable in front of the present brick-faced portion of the principal elevation, has been destroyed.

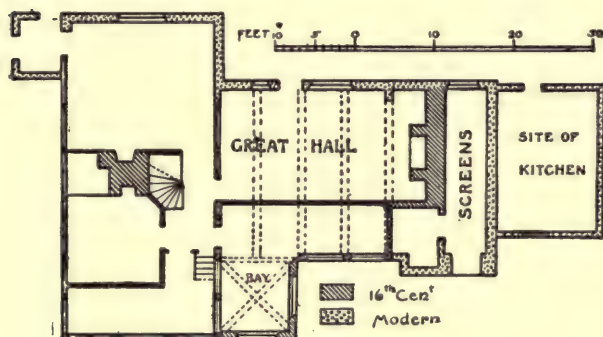
The house is situated on high ground above the valley of the Irk, facing north, and overlooking the town of Middleton. It was probably erected in the latter part of the 16th century, and is an interesting specimen of the timber architecture of the county. What remains consists of the central and eastern wings, two stories in height, which preserve their original timber and plaster construction on the north and east sides. The south and west sides have been rebuilt in brick. The exterior timber-work consists of roughly-shaped beams and posts with a filling-in of square quatrefoil panels. The continuous repetition of the quatrefoils, broken only by the shallow plaster coves which mark the lines of the first floor and eaves, gives a somewhat rich and ornamental appearance to the building, though the detail is poor. The oak pegs are left projecting about an inch all round the panels, and form a characteristic feature of the building, which, however, has a very dilapidated appearance, the gables being without barge boards, the windows without glass, and portions of the front of the house boarded up. In other parts the walls

by the present passage at the west end of the room, which is now separated from it by a brick wall. The usual arrangement of the great hall was, however, probably not strictly adhered to. The fireplace is at the west end, in the position of the screen, and blocking up any way to the passage, except on the north side. The ceiling is crossed by four massive beams. When the building was occupied as a farmhouse the part of the hall on the south side of the partition was used as a kitchen, and modern windows and a door were inserted in the south wall. The bay window with the portion of the great hall on the north side of the partition is now a separate apartment. The east wing contains a square staircase, with solid oak steps, and seems to have had originally two rooms, one on each side of a central chimney. One of these rooms, however, has again been divided, and a small apartment, measuring about 12 ft. by 11 ft., formed. This parlour, which has a window on the east side, is panelled all round with 18th-century wainscot, and has had a picture over the fireplace, half of which still remains. In the room at the back there is still a good 17th-century oak table. There are five rooms on the first floor, but they offer no points of interest, and there is a cellar under the front

portion of the east wing. There was apparently a restoration or alteration of the house in 1703, that date, with the initials R^T A (Richard Tonge and Alice his wife) being on three lead spout-heads in different parts of the building. The initials R. T. were also on a latch-plate in one of the barns, and in yellow stain on one of the leaded quarries of the windows. The house was tenanted by a farmer for some years previous to 1890; since then it has been unoccupied, and allowed to decay. During its occupancy as a farm modern windows were inserted on the south and east sides, and a new brick porch built at the south-east corner. The owner recently offered it as a gift to the town of Middleton for use as a museum, but the offer was not accepted.²⁹

The inquiries show that the Radcliffes of Smithills held land in Tonge of the king, but no details are given.²⁹ About 1400 William del Dam and Margery his wife had lands in Tonge.³⁰ Richard Assheton of Middleton died in 1618, holding land in Tonge of the king by knight's service, as part of the manor of Middleton.³¹

Several places of worship have during the last century been erected in Tonge. In connexion with the Established religion St. Michael's, in the west, was built in 1839, and rebuilt in 1902; the rector of Prestwich is patron; and St. Gabriel's, Middleton Junction, was built in 1885, the Bishop of Manchester collating. In connexion with the former is the iron mission church of the Holy Innocents.



PLAN OF TONGE HALL

are broken through, and open for anyone to enter. The west end of the principal or north elevation has been refaced in brick in front where the porch originally stood, and there is some brick patching in other parts of the front of the house. The roofs are covered with grey stone slates, and the chimney shafts are of brick set diagonally on a square base.

The interior is in an even worse state than the outside, and very little of interest remains. The principal apartment, or great hall, which is paved with stone flags, occupies the whole of the west (or what was the centre) wing, but has been divided in later times unequally across its length by a partition. It measures about 27 ft. in length and 21 ft. in width, and had a large bay window 9 ft. square at the north-east end. The position of the screens seems to be indicated

²⁸ *Manch. Guard.* 1 Dec. 1906.

²⁹ *Duchy of Lanc. Inq. p.m.* iii, 12.

³⁰ In 1392 William son of John del Dam granted to Sir Ralph de Radcliffe all his messuages and lands in Tonge in the vill of Prestwich, at a rent of one pepper-corn for eight years, and 40s. afterwards; Agecroft D. 41.

The custody of two messuages called Tonge in Alkington was in 1401 granted

to William del Dam and Margery his wife; *Dep. Keeper's Rep.* xl, App. 530.

In 1481 at Prestwich Church sworn declarations were made before a notary, concerning the lands of John Langley and Robert his son. Robert Stork, aged 80, said that formerly at the Barkhouses in Tonge dwelt William Dam, at another place John Barlow—both houses levelled with the ground—at Gunthorp Hugh Hobson, and later Ralph Hilton, and at another

place Joan Bradshaw. The rent of Barlow's and Hobson's houses had been paid to Richard Barton of Middleton and not to Henry Tonge. Other witnesses corroborated. Richard Withington had lived at Gunthorp for thirty-seven years, and never paid rent except to Richard Barton; Agecroft D. 84.

³¹ *Lancs. Inq. p.m.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), ii, 107.

A HISTORY OF LANCASHIRE

PILKINGTON

Pilkiton, Pilkinton, Pulkinton, 1200; Pilketon, 1221; Pilkinton, Pynkelton, Pynkilnton, 1277; Pilkington, 1282. The forms with and without the *g* are common from this time.

This township is bounded on two sides, the south-west and north, by the River Irwell, which makes an acute bend at the western corner, and its tributary the Roch; on the north-east the Whittle Brook, running into the latter stream, cuts it off from Pilsworth and Heap. The southern boundary is formed by the high land towards Heaton, and the clough towards Prestwich. The highest ground is near the centre, a ridge about a mile from east to west reaching the 400-ft. level. The township measures about 4 miles by 2, and has an area of 5,469 acres.¹ The population in 1901 was 15,578, including 324 in the area added to Unsworth.

For a long time there were three recognized divisions, or hamlets, in the township—Unsworth² in the east, Whitefield in the centre, and Outwood in the west. Unsworth village lay in the centre of its division on the higher ground between two brooks running north to Whittle Brook and to the Roch. The hamlets of Hollins and Blackford Bridge are near the Roch. Whitefield, also centrally placed, has grown into a town, stretching along the high road from Besses o' th' Barn³ on the south to the Irwell. To the north-west is a suburb of Radcliffe, at the bridge over the Irwell. To the south of these, on the highest ground, is the hamlet of Stand, with Pilkington and Stand Halls. Outwood still has the park on the border of Prestwich and a number of wooded cloughs. At the west end are Cinder Hill, part of Ringley—the other part being across the river, in Kearsley—and Prestolee.⁴

The principal road is that from Manchester to Bury. Two branches of it unite at the southern border, and go north through Thatchleach, Besses o' th' Barn, Four Lane Ends, and Whitefield. Here the road divides again; one branch goes north to Bury, crossing the Irk at Wackford Bridge, and another goes north-west to Radcliffe Bridge. From Whitefield also roads branch off north-east to Unsworth, south-west to the Irwell, and west to Stand and Ringley, where there are bridges over the Irwell. The Lancashire and Yorkshire Company's Manchester, Radcliffe, and Bury Railway passes north and north-west through the centre, with a station at Whitefield, opened in 1879.⁵ The same company's branch from Clifton to Radcliffe and Bury winds west and north through Outwood, with stations called Molyneux Brow and

Ringley Road. The Manchester and Bolton Canal also passes through Outwood, crossing the Irwell from Clifton, keeping close to the river most of the way, and crossing it again near Prestolee.

A dragon story is told of Unsworth.⁶

Pilkington has since 1894 ceased to exist as a township. Whitefield, the central portion, which obtained a local board in 1866,⁷ has been in part added to Radcliffe; a new township has been made on the south-west called Outwood, while Unsworth has given its name to a township on the other side, made up of the old Unsworth and Pilsworth, with the detached part of Heap which adjoined it.⁸ The new townships are governed by parish councils.

In 1666 there were as many as 245 hearths liable to be taxed. The three hamlets showed the following:—Outwood, 70 hearths, no house having six hearths; Whitefield 135, Margaret Sergeant's house having eight; and Unsworth 40, no house having six hearths.⁹

The view from Stand Hall was thus described in 1806:—'The large town of Manchester spreads along the valley in front of the house at some miles distance, and the less one of Bury is seen distinctly to the left, surrounded by villages, with simple cottages dispersed along the plain. The hills of Lancashire, Derbyshire, Cheshire, and Yorkshire rising in succession, spread in a vast amphitheatre, till lost in the immensity of space; while the rugged tops of the Welsh mountains, which I gazed upon as old friends, hide their heads in the clouds, of which they seem to form a part. . . . The neighbourhood abounds with families of immense wealth, and reminds me of what Clapham Common is to London. The villas of the gentry are handsome, and their pleasure grounds are tastefully laid out. The rich woods and green park of Heaton House, the seat of the Earl of Wilton, appear from the terrace of Stand Hall to much advantage; but the most prominent feature in this landscape is the pretty church of Prestwich.'¹⁰

Stand Hall, a large timber and plaster house, was taken down in 1835, and a new house built.¹¹ A large wooden barn belonging to the old house has been the subject of much attention because of an absurd theory that it was built of the timbers of a wooden predecessor of the present Cathedral church of Manchester.

The manor of *PILKINGTON* was *MANOR* held of the lords of Manchester by the fourth part of a knight's fee,¹² by a family which took the local name, and its dependence on Manchester continued, at least in name, till the 18th century.¹³ The first of the local family known

¹ Including Outwood, 1,939; Whitefield, 2,058½; and Unsworth, 1,471½. The census report of 1901 gives:—Outwood, 1,938 acres, including 80 of inland water; Whitefield, 1,406, including 9; the part taken into Radcliffe, 625, including 23; Unsworth (enlarged), 3,067, including 27.

² Hundeswrth, 1292.

³ The name is said to have originated from the innkeeper about 1750; *Manch. Guard. Local N. and Q.* no. 448.

⁴ Perhaps Prestall Lee, from Prestall on the other side of the Irwell in Farnworth and Kearsley.

⁵ Electric tramways connect Whitefield with Manchester and Bury.

⁶ Harland and Wilkinson, *Traditions of Lancs.* 63.

⁷ *Lond. Gaz.* 19 Jan. 1866.

⁸ Local Govt. Bd. Order, 30905; a slight alteration in Whitefield boundary was made in 1896; *ibid.* 33855.

⁹ Subs. R. bdl. 250, no. 9, Lancs.

¹⁰ *Pal. Note Bk.* ii, 55, quoting E. I. Spence's *Summer Excursions*, i, 123.

¹¹ A description of the remaining part of Stand Old Hall by E. W. Cox, with several views, is given in Col. J. Pilkington's *Pilkington Family*.

¹² *Lancs. Inq. and Extents* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), i, 55. In addition to the knight's service the lord of Pilkington had to find 'one judge for the king, of ancient tenure.' The manor had therefore probably been held by the same family all through the 12th century.

In 1282 the vill of Pilkington was

held of Robert Grelley by the fourth part of a fee, and was worth £10 a year clear; *ibid.* 250. In 1322 the lord of Pilkington was one of those who owed suit to the three-weeks court at Manchester, of ancient custom, being called a judge of the court; *Mamecestre* (Chet. Soc.), ii, 375. An oxgang in 'Pilkington' was in 1311 stated to be held by a rent of 12d. of the manor of Rochdale; *De Lacy Inq.* (Chet. Soc.), 20. Nothing further is known of it, and the name given is probably an error of transcription.

¹³ As late as 1733 the jury of Manchester court leet amerced the constable of Pilkington (among others) for not appearing, though owing suit and service to the court; *Manch. Ct. Leet Rec.* vii, 25.

is Alexander de Pilkington, who appears about 1200 as contributing to the tallage;¹⁴ he held the manor in 1212,¹⁵ and was living in 1231.¹⁶ He was followed by Roger de Pilkington, presumably his son. Roger was defendant in 1221,¹⁷ and held the manor in 1242.¹⁸ Alexander de Pilkington, who, it is reasonably conjectured, increased the family possessions by his marriage with Alice, sister and co-heir of Sir Geoffrey de Cheetham, lord of Cheetham and Crompton,¹⁹ occurs between 1260 and 1290 as witness to charters;²⁰ he was the tenant of the manor in 1282.²¹ His son Roger²² succeeded, and obtained from the king a grant of free warren in Pilkington and his other manors in 1291;²³ a year before he had had a grant of £100 for his services in Gascony.²⁴ In other ways

Roger took his part in the public affairs of the time, serving as knight of the shire in 1316.²⁵ He sided with the Earl of Lancaster, and after the battle of Boroughbridge was imprisoned and fined, dying shortly afterwards.²⁶

In 1312 he had made a settlement of his manors of Pilkington and Cheetham in favour of his son Roger, with remainder to a younger son William.²⁷ Roger accordingly succeeded his father;²⁸ but little is known of him except



PILKINGTON. *Argent a cross patonce voided gules.*

¹⁴ Farrer, *Lancs. Pipe R.* 151.

In 1202 Alexander de Pilkington, William his brother, and Alice his sister were concerned in a settlement of lands in Rivington and Worsthorne; *Final Conc.* i, 18, 22.

The Pilkington crest, a mower with his scythe, with the motto, 'Now thus, now thus,' similar to that of the Trafford family, has a legend of unknown origin related by Fuller, who had it from William Ryley, Norroy, to the effect that the ancestor of the family, being sought for at the time of the Norman invasion, disguised himself as a mower and so escaped. The crest is found on a seal of 1424.

Accounts of the family have been printed by John Harland, 1875, and by Lieut.-Colonel John Pilkington, F.S.A., in *Trans. Hist. Soc.* 1891, and separately, 1894; this, with corrections and additions supplied by the author, has been utilized in this place. See also *Final Conc.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), ii, 35-8. A number of illustrative documents are printed in *Lancs. Inq. p.m.* (Chet. Soc.), ii, 175-86.

¹⁵ *Lancs. Inq. and Extents*, i, 55. He also held Rivington; *ibid.* 67.

¹⁶ Alexander de Pilkington attested a number of early charters; e.g. *Lancs. Pipe R.* 329-30; *Final Conc.* i, 216. He served on a jury in 1225-6; *ibid.* i, 145. The latest occurrence of his name seems to be as witness to a charter in 1231; Lord Ellesmere's D. no. 215.

¹⁷ Roger de Pilkington, Geoffrey son of Luke, and others were summoned by Henry de Bolton; Curia Regis R. 78, m. 4 d. Roger attested an early 13th-century charter to Stanlaw; *Whalley Coucher* (Chet. Soc.), i, 49.

¹⁸ *Inq. and Extents*, i, 154. In 1246 he was concerned in suits about Sholver; Assize R. 404, m. 2, 7, 9.

¹⁹ See the account of Cheetham, and E. Axon, *Cheetham Gen.* (Chet. Soc. New Ser.), 2.

²⁰ Alexander was probably the son of Roger. In 1277 it was found that Adam de Prestwich, Richard son of David de Hulton, Thomas de Heaton, Roger de Prestwich, and others had thrown down a ditch in Pilkington and Prestwich, whereby the tenants of Alexander de Pilkington had been damaged, through the depasturing of their corn, &c. Alexander said his father and ancestors had always been wont to raise that ditch for the protection of their corn and meadow. In the end Adam de Prestwich and the others were ordered to pay for the repair of that part of the ditch which lay in Pilkington; Assize R. 1235, m. 11 d. For a charter

attested by him see *Final Conc.* i, 218; there are others among the Ellesmere Deeds, e.g. no. 135 (1267), 216 (1271), and 137 (1276).

²¹ *Lancs. Inq. and Extents*, i, 248. He is also mentioned in 1284; *Cal. Close*, 1279-88, p. 251.

Alice, widow of Alexander de Pilkington, is named in 1302; Assize R. 418, m. 2, 12.

²² Alexander de Pilkington and Roger his son were witnesses to Lever charters about 1270; Add. MS. 32103, no. 16, 20. Richard, another son of Alexander, received the manor of Rivington.

²³ Chart. R. 84 (19 Edw. I), m. 10, no. 41; a grant to Roger de Pilkington of free warren in his demesne lands of Pilkington, Whitefield, Unsworth, Cheetham, Crompton, Sholver, and Wolstenholme. In the following year he was called upon to justify his claim of free warren, and produced the charter; *Plac. de Quo War.* (Rec. Com.), 369.

²⁴ *Cal. Pat.* 1281-90, p. 352. He had the king's protection in 1296 on going beyond the seas in the retinue of William de Louth, Bishop of Ely; *ibid.* 1292-1301, p. 177.

In 1302 he contributed 10s. to the aid, as holding the fourth part of a knight's fee in Pilkington; *Lancs. Inq. and Extents*, i, 313. In 1322 it was found that he owed homage, fealty, and suit of court for the fourth part of a fee in Pilkington, and paid sake-fee 4s. 8d., castle ward 2s. 8d., and piture; *Mamecestre*, ii, 289.

His seal, showing the cross patonce, is attached to a Crompton deed of 1307; Clowes D. no. 96.

²⁵ *Parl. Writs* (Rec. Com.), i, 1292; in 1313 he had a pardon for his part in the rising which led to the death of Piers Gaveston, and another in 1318. See also *Rot. Scotiae*, and Pink and Beaven, *Parl. Repr. of Lancs.* 18.

In 1298, at Bolton, Henry son of Alexander de Pilkington (otherwise del Wood) came with a sword made of iron and steel, worth 2s., and wounded Adam de Pilkington in the neck 4 in. from the right ear, with a wound 3 in. deep, 3 in. long, and 2 in. wide, of which the said Adam languished for seven days, and died at dawn on the eighth day at Pilkington in the house of his brother Roger; Assize R. 417, m. 2; 422, m. 1 d.; see further *Cal. Pat.* 1292-1301, p. 550.

²⁶ *Parl. Writs*, loc. cit.; he was committed prisoner to Tickhill Castle, and afterwards released on agreeing to pay a fine of £200. His widow Margaret married Adam de Swillington; *Cal. Pat.* 1327-30, p. 21.

²⁷ *Final Conc.* ii, 9; he made further

settlements in 1319 and 1320, when his wife's name is given as Margery; *ibid.* ii, 33, 35.

A Roger de Pilkington in 1295 espoused Alice daughter of Sir Ralph de Otteby, and received with her the manor of Otteby in Lincolnshire; Roger joined in the insurrection of Thomas, Earl of Lancaster, and the manor was taken into the king's hands; but in 1324 Alexander, the son and heir of Roger and Alice, both then dead, petitioned for its restoration, and appears to have succeeded. An Alexander de Pilkington of Lincolnshire occurs a little later. See *Inq. a.q.d.* 17 Edw. II, no. 97; *Anct. Pet. P.R.O.* 133/6639; *Pat.* 18 Edw. II (6 Sept. 1324). As there can scarcely have been two Rogers taking part with the Earl of Lancaster and dying before 1324, it follows that Roger must have been married three times, the heir to Pilkington being a son by the first wife.

His widow, Margery, as stated, almost immediately after his death married Sir Adam de Swillington, who had also taken part with Earl Thomas. On 13 Nov. 1322 she had livery of the lands settled upon her in 1319; *Cal. Close*, 1318-23, pp. 610, 648; and in 1327 Adam de Swillington was acquitted of the fine of £200 incurred by Roger; *ibid.* 1327-30, p. 21.

Richard and William, sons of Roger de Pilkington, are mentioned in 1333; *Cal. Pat.* 1330-4, p. 498. William de Pilkington was in 1344 presented to the rectory of Swillington by Margery, relict of Sir Adam de Swillington; Col. J. Pilkington, quoting Torre MSS.

²⁸ About 1324 Roger de Pilkington appears as holding seven parts of the manor of Rivington; *Lancs. Inq. and Extents*, ii, 103.

In 1324 it was stated that a Roger de Pilkington had had to pay £100 to Robert de Holland after the death of Adam Banastre; *Coram Rege* R. 254, fol. 61.

Roger de Pilkington in 1325 was summoned to serve in Guienne, such service having been a condition of his pardon; *Parl. Writs*, i, 1292. He must therefore have taken part with his father in the rebellion. In 1341 he was one of the jury to inquire into the assessment of the ninth; *Inq. Non.* (Rec. Com.), 39. In 1343 Roger de Pilkington—perhaps the son—was charged by the jurors of West Derby with having 'brought a great crowd to the terror of the people'; Assize R. 430, m. 29.

In the aid 1346-55 Roger held the fourth part of a knight's fee in Pilkington; *Feud. Aids*, iii, 89.

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his marriage with Alice, sister and heir of Henry de Bury, by which the important manor of Bury was acquired by the family.²⁹ He died about 1347,³⁰ being followed by his son, the third Roger in succession. The new lord, who was made a knight before 1365, attended John of Gaunt on the expedition to France in 1359;³¹ he served as knight of the shire in six Parliaments between 1363 and 1384.³² He died in 1407, holding the manor of Pilkington of the lord of Manchester by knight's service. His son and heir, Sir John, was thirty-four years of age.³³

Sir John de Pilkington, whose age must have been understated³⁴ at the inquisition just quoted, is first heard of as marrying Margaret, widow of Hugh de Bradshagh, and heiress of Sir John de Verdon; she was a ward of the duke, and her husband procured a pardon in 1383 for having married her without permission.³⁵ He was one of those who were appointed to attend the king in the Scottish expedition of 1400.³⁶ In 1413 he obtained a confirmation of the grant of free warren in Pilkington and other manors.³⁷ He was one of the Lancashire knights who fought at Agincourt,³⁸ and he continued to serve in the French wars,³⁹ dying early in 1421. His son and heir, Sir John, was then twenty-eight years of age.⁴⁰

The younger Sir John also fought in the French wars.⁴¹ He was knight of the shire in 1416, and in 1418, as a reward for his services, he was made escheator in Ireland;⁴² this office was confirmed to him in 1423.⁴³ He died without issue in 1451, and his honours descended to Thomas, son of Edmund Pilkington.⁴⁴ The elder Sir John and Margaret his wife had a son Edmund, on whom the manor of Stagenhoe in Hertfordshire was settled in 1399 for his life;⁴⁵ Thomas was no doubt the son of this Edmund, who was living in 1438.⁴⁶ Thomas Pilkington enjoyed the favour of Edward IV; in 1469 he obtained licence to fortify his manor-house at Bury,⁴⁷ and was several times sheriff of the county.⁴⁸ He was made a knight of the Bath in 1475, and a banneret at the capture of Berwick in 1481.⁴⁹ As a zealous adherent of Richard III he fought on his side at Bosworth;⁵⁰ was attainted by the victorious Henry, and his confiscated manors in Lancashire were given to the newly-created Earl of Derby.⁵¹ Sir Thomas Pilkington does not seem to have become reconciled at once to the new king, for in 1487 he fought at Stoke for Lambert Simnel.⁵² His son and heir Roger contrived to obtain or retain the manors of Brisingham and Clipston;⁵³ he left six daughters as co-heirs.⁵⁴

²⁹ See the account of Bury.

³⁰ Alice, widow of Roger de Pilkington, occurs in 1350; Assize R. 1444, m. 4. There were various suits in later years in which she and Roger son of Roger de Pilkington were concerned; e.g. Duchy of Lanc. Assize R. 1, m. 7; *Dep. Keeper's Rep.* xxxii, App. 342.

The Bishop of Lichfield in 1360 granted Alice, lady of Pilkington, licence for an oratory there for two years; Lich. Epis. Reg. v, fol. 3.

In 1375 Henry de Pilkington, administrator of the goods of Alice de Pilkington deceased, called upon Roger son of Roger de Pilkington for account; it appears that he had brothers Richard and Robert, and that all were brothers of Sir Roger; De Banco R. 456, m. 598; 458, m. 80 d.; 460, m. 323 d.

³¹ The grant of protection given him on this occasion was shown in court in Sept. 1359; Duchy of Lanc. Assize R. 7, m. 4; see *Dep. Keeper's Rep.* xxxii, App. 334.

³² Pink and Beaven, op. cit. 34-40. He is called 'chivaler' in the return of Jan. 1364-5, p. 35.

When over sixty years of age, in 1386, he appeared at the Scrope-Grosvenor trial; Nicolas, *Scrope R.* 289.

³³ *Lancs. Inq. p.m.* (Chet. Soc.), i, 86. The manor of Bury had been given to his son, Sir John, before his death.

Isabel daughter of Roger de Pilkington married (1) Thomas son of Sir Thomas de Lathom, and (2) Sir John de Dalton; *ibid.* 10, 20.

³⁴ As he was married, apparently of his own will, in 1383, he would probably not be far from twenty years of age. He was over twenty years of age, and a knight, on appearing at the Scrope-Grosvenor trial in 1386; *Scrope R.* 290.

³⁵ He paid a fine of 20 marks for himself and his wife for the pardon of the Duke of Lancaster; *Lancs. Inq. p.m.* (Chet. Soc.), i, 86; *Dep. Keeper's Rep.* xi, App. 522; also *ibid.* xxxii, App. 356.

³⁶ *Cal. Pat.* 1399-1401, p. 353. In 1402 he went to Germany in the retinue of the Lady Blanche; Rymer, *Feod.* (Syl-

labus, ii, 544); see also *Rolls of Parl.* iii, 634.

³⁷ *Cal. Rot. Pat.* (Rec. Com.), 262.

³⁸ Sir H. Nicolas, *Agincourt*, 360; he had with him three esquires, ten lances, and forty-five archers.

³⁹ Norman rolls in *Dep. Keeper's Rep.* xli, App. 711, 715, 788; *ibid.* xlii, App. 392, 393.

⁴⁰ *Lancs. Rec. Inq. p.m.* no. 25, 26; the jury did not know by what service the manor of Pilkington was held of the lord of Manchester, but gave its clear annual value as £60. He died 16 Feb. 1420-1.

His widow Margaret died in Nov. 1436; her next heir was her granddaughter Elizabeth, daughter of Sir William Bradshagh and wife of Sir Richard Harrington; *Lancs. Inq. p.m.* (Chet. Soc.), ii, 181-4.

⁴¹ He is perhaps the John de Pilkington who had Cheshire archers in his retinue; *Dep. Keeper's Rep.* xlii, App. 392. He occurs in 1427 as in debt to his tailor; *Cal. Pat.* 1422-9, p. 430.

He held the manor of Pilkington in 1431; *Feud. Aids*, iii, 96.

Immediately after his father's death Sir John granted his mother the pasture called Outwood and Ringleys, the teneement of William Walwork in Pilkington, and various rents and lands as dower; Raines MSS. (Chet. Lib.), xxxviii, 3. In 1432 he granted to feoffees manors and lands in Bury, Pilkington, and Cheetham; *ibid.* 7. Three years later he married, at the door of Manchester church, Elizabeth daughter of Sir Edmund Trafford, and made a settlement in her favour; *ibid.* 7, 9. In 1438 he again made a settlement of his manors and lands in Lancashire, and his brother Edmund confirmed it; *ibid.* 11, 15. Sir John made his will in Oct. 1446, in which he mentions Elizabeth his wife, and desires a fit priest to be procured to celebrate for him, and two years later he confirmed the arrangements made; *ibid.* 15, 17.

⁴² *Dep. Keeper's Rep.* xli, App. 727, 760; *Rot. Norm.* (Rec. Com.), 234.

⁴³ *Cal. Pat.* 1422-9, p. 51.

⁴⁴ The inquisition relating to the Lanca-

shire estate is not known to exist; but that relating to Brickslesworth in Northamptonshire is printed in *Lancs. Inq. p.m.* (Chet. Soc.), ii, 184. It had been settled on him by his mother in 1430, with remainders to Edmund and Robert Pilkington, and to her granddaughter Elizabeth Bradshagh; *ibid.* 180. Sir John died 23 Feb. 1450-1; his heir was Thomas son of Edmund Pilkington, then of full age. Two later writs of *Diem clausit extremum* were issued in 1456 and 1459; *Dep. Keeper's Rep.* xxxvii, App. 175, 177.

⁴⁵ *Lancs. Inq. p.m.* ii, 176. By a fine of 1430 Stagenhoe was settled on Edmund Pilkington and his heirs male, with reversion to Elizabeth daughter of Sir William Bradshagh; *ibid.* 181.

⁴⁶ A difficulty is created by the statement in a plea in the *Rolls of Parl.* (vi, 34, 35) that Thomas was the son of Edmund son of Katherine, sister of John Ashton (of Ashton-under-Lyne). The solution may be that Edmund was son-in-law of Katherine, i.e. that she was his wife's mother.

⁴⁷ *Dep. Keeper's Rep.* xxxvii, App. 179.

⁴⁸ From 1467 to 1473 and from 1480 to 1484; *P.R.O. List*, 72. In his first term he was 'esquire,' and in the second 'knight.'

⁴⁹ Metcalfe, *Knights*, 4, by the Prince in 1475, and p. 5, by the Duke of Gloucester, 1481.

⁵⁰ Pilkington, *Pilkington Family*, 26, quoting Harl. MS. 542, fol. 31.

⁵¹ *Rolls of Parl.* vi, 276.

⁵² Harland, *Pilkington*, 2 (quoting Blomfield's *Norf.* i, 33, x, 42), erroneously states that he was killed at the battle of Stoke. He was pardoned in 1508; Towneley MS. GG, no. 2041.

⁵³ *Cal. Inq. Hen. VII*, i, 220; Sir Thomas Pilkington, attainted in 1485, had in 1467 granted his manor of Clipston to his son Roger, who had been in possession from that time until 1487. In 1502 it was alleged that the grant to Roger was made without the knowledge of Sir Thomas; *Pal. of Lanc. Plea R.* 95, m. 5.

⁵⁴ Harland, *ut sup.*

Pilkington, as already stated, was granted in 1489 to Thomas Stanley, Earl of Derby,⁵⁵ and has descended with the title in the same manner as Knowsley to the present earl.⁵⁶ No courts are held, but 'suit and service' at the manor court still exist in name.

In 1541 there were no freeholders in the township contributing to the subsidy, but in 1622 Thomas Lever and Richard Fogg contributed.⁵⁷ Thomas Heape, a leaseholder under the Earl of Derby, compounded for his estate in Pilkington in 1649, his 'delinquency' being that he had borne arms against the Parliament.⁵⁸

Though Unsworth gave a surname to a family which occurs in various other places, it does not seem to have had any prominent residents of that name. The estate of Rhodes⁵⁹ was held by the families of Foxe and Holland as heirs of Parr.⁶⁰ The families of Barlow,⁶¹ Crompton,⁶² Molyneux,⁶³ Seddon,⁶⁴ Ser-

geant,⁶⁵ Walworth,⁶⁶ and Wroe⁶⁷ occur in the 16th and 17th centuries.

The land tax returns of 1786 show the principal proprietors to have been:—In Whitefield, the Earl of Derby, the executor of Geoffrey Richardson, Benjamin Blinkhorn, and Richard Walker; in Outwood, — Smith, Mrs. Watson, — Tomkinson, James Fields, Egerton Cross; and in Unsworth, Thomas Butterworth Bayley, Thomas Chadwick, and Richard Meadowcroft.⁶⁸

Philips Park, on the border of Prestwich, derives its name from Robert Philips, who bought it about 1800.⁶⁹

Digging for coals in Pilkington is mentioned in 1599.⁷⁰

Nathan Walworth, a native of Ringley in Outwood, built the chapel of St. Saviour in 1625,⁷¹ in conjunction with his Puritan friends in the neighbourhood. It was consecrated in 1634,⁷² and rebuilt

⁵⁵ Pat. 4 Hen. VII, 23 Feb.; the grant included the manors of Pilkington, Bury, Cheetham, and Cheetwood, and lands, &c. in these places and in Tottington, Unsworth, Salford, Shuttleworth, Shufflebottom, Middleton, and Hundersfield.

⁵⁶ The manor of Pilkington was in 1652 part of the life estate of Charlotte Countess of Derby; the old rents in 1640 were £116, and the turbarry was worth £4; *Royalist Comp. Papers* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), ii, 184, 185. Various lands in the neighbourhood seem to have been treated as appurtenances of the manor, e.g. a messuage in Salford and messuages in Cheetham; *ibid.* ii, 240, 241; also *Com. Pleas Recov. Rolls*, Trin. 1653, m. 21; *Mich.* 1653, m. 39.

The manor has been included in the Derby settlements; e.g. *Pal. of Lanc. Feet of F. dble.* 199, m. 55 (1677); *ibid.* Aug. Assizes, 1797 (recovery).

⁵⁷ *Misc.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), i, 143, 155.

⁵⁸ *Royalist Comp. Papers*, iii, 174; he stated that 'he was threatened from his dwelling house into service as a common trooper' under the earl. He was the son of Richard and Jane Heape. Thomas and John Heape contributed to the subsidy in 1622.

⁵⁹ A family of the local name was formerly settled there; Booker quotes a deed by which Richard de Rodes, clerk, in 1280 granted all the fruits in his land at the Rhodes to Richard de Buddelisholme and Agnes his wife; *Prestwich*, 214.

The legend as to the fraud by which Sir John Pilkington acquired the estate is given in Baines, *Lancs.* (ed. 1870), i, 448. Sir John is said to have caused some of his own cattle to be locked up in a shelter on the Rhodes property, and having 'found' them there, charged the owner with stealing them, and thus compelled him to sell his estate.

⁶⁰ 'From the old local family it passed in marriage with an heiress into the family of Parr, from whom it was conveyed by two sisters and co-heiresses—one portion to William son of William Holland of Clifton in right of his wife Jane Parr, and the remainder to — Foxe of Latham, who had espoused the other sister'; Booker, *loc. cit.* no references being given.

In 1541 John Foxe contributed to the subsidy. His son William died about 1595, having, besides the Rhodes, an estate in Toxteth. By his will he gave to his son his title and interest in ground 'late parcel of the waste and common in Pilkington

aforesaid, called Whitefield moor'; and 10 metes of barley to be divided equally among twenty of the poorest people of Pilkington and the neighbourhood; *Picope, Wills* (Chet. Soc.), iii, 113–15. The inventories of his goods at Pilkington and Toxteth amounted respectively to £295 and £127. For the will of Jane widow of John Foxe, 1581, see *Wills* (Chet. Soc. new ser.), i, 210; also i, 236. There is a picture of the family life at Rhodes in Halley, *Lancs. Puritanism*, i, 193–4.

The name Foxe occurs in the Prestwich registers down to 1746; Booker, *loc. supra cit.* See also *Walworth Corresp.* (Chet. Soc.), 8.

The statement quoted above, that William Holland of Rhodes was son of William Holland of Clifton, is incorrect; see W. F. Irvine, *Hollands of Mobberley*, 37–8. The will of William Holland of Rhodes, 1613, is printed *ibid.* 123. The Hollands of Rhodes occur in the Prestwich registers down to 1672; Booker, *op. cit.* 176–8.

⁶¹ Robert Barlow contributed to the subsidy in 1541 and Thomas Barlow in 1622.

⁶² Thomas Crompton contributed to the subsidy in 1541. Of another family was Joshua Crompton of Old Hall in Stand, baptized at Bolton in 1650 and buried there in 1728; he was succeeded by co-heiresses, whose representatives in 1847 were George Ormerod, the historian of Cheshire; Hornby Roughsedge of Foxghyll; George Tomline of Riby; and Harriet Maltby of Bath; Booker, *op. cit.* 233–5; also 245.

⁶³ This family gave its name to a portion of the Park in Pilkington. Molyneux occurs in the Prestwich registers from 1630 to 1745; Booker, *op. cit.* 236, 237.

⁶⁴ For the Seddons of Prestolee, a yeoman family, see the *Walworth Corresp.* where a tabular pedigree is given, extending from 1550 to 1870. The family were in the main Puritans, and adhered to the Parliamentary side in the Civil War, though one or two took part with the king; *op. cit.* pp. x–xiv. Peter Seddon was in 1646 a member of the Manchester Classis; his son Peter was a captain in the Parliamentary army; another son, Robert, a minister, was ejected from Langley in 1662; *Manch. Classis* (Chet. Soc.), i, 7; iii, 445.

⁶⁵ This family lived at Stand in the 17th century. Peter Sergeant of Pilkington was another member of the Classis;

ibid. i, 7, 16. Extracts from the Prestwich registers relating to them are given by Booker, pp. 221–3.

⁶⁶ For an account of the family see J. S. Fletcher, *Walworth Corresp.* above quoted, v–ix; *Pal. Note Bk.* i, 1. Ellis Walwork or Walworth was curate of Prestwich in 1563 onwards; *Visit. Lists* at Chester. Nathan Walworth founded the chapel of Ringley in 1624.

⁶⁷ The will of Robert Wroe of Prestwich was proved in 1566; *Wills* (Chet. Soc. new ser.), i, 232. James Wroe of Unsworth was an elder of Prestwich in 1647; *Manch. Classis*, 16.

⁶⁸ Returns at Preston.

⁶⁹ W. Nicholls, *Prestwich*, 91, 92. It was part of the ancient Park of Pilkington. The Philips family have monuments in the old Presbyterian chapel at Stand. The house was built by Robert Philips in 1800; his eldest son Mark, a Liberal, was one of the first members of Parliament for Manchester, 1832 to 1847; *Pink and Beaven*, *op. cit.* 295–8. Another son, the late Robert Needham Philips, was member for Bury from 1857 to 1885; *ibid.* 329. 'Through the generosity of the resident family much of the most beautiful part of the estate has been open for years and is still open to the public every Saturday and Sunday.' For a pedigree of the family see Burke, *Landed Gentry*—Philips of Heath House.

⁷⁰ *Ducatus Lanc.* (Rec. Com.), iii, 400, 401, 420.

Robert Massey, mercer, of Warrington, in 1651 desired to purchase thirty-eight score of timber trees and poles on the Earl of Derby's land at Pilkington, some being much decayed and of no use, 'because coals are gotten within a mile or two'; *Cal. of Com. for Compounding*, i, 492.

⁷¹ Nathan Walworth mentions it in a letter of 1623, and hopes the building will go forward in the following spring; *Walworth Corresp.* 2. The date of erection is given in *Commonwealth Ch. Surv.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), 15.

⁷² The delay in the consecration seems to have been due to the want of an endowment for the minister. A description of the consecration is given in a letter of Peter Seddon's; he saw nothing in the ceremony but what was 'godly, lawful, and expedient, without any superstition'; he was aware that 'some calumniators' objected, but, as he thought, 'because they like not bishops'; *Walworth Corresp.* 30–3.

Walworth afterwards endowed it with

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in 1824. The patronage, by the founder's desire, is vested in the rectors of Prestwich, Bury, and Middleton, or the majority of them. The present church of St. Saviour was built in 1851, and consecrated in 1854. Holy Trinity Church, Prestolee, was built in 1863, and had a district assigned to it in 1883;⁷⁵ the Lord Chancellor presents. St. George's, Unsworth, was built in 1730, and rebuilt in 1843; the rector of Prestwich is patron.⁷⁴ All Saints', Stand, was built in 1826; Sir Frederick Johnstone is patron at present.⁷⁵ St. John the Evangelist's, Stand Lane, built in 1866, has also a small mission church; the patronage is vested in three trustees.

In addition to the chapel Nathan Walworth also founded a school at Ringley in 1626.⁷⁶

There are Wesleyan chapels at Radcliffe Bridge and Unsworth—the former dating from 1815—and a Primitive Methodist one at Chapel Field.

The Congregational Church at Stand represents a division in the old Presbyterian congregation caused by opposition to the newly introduced Unitarian doctrine. The first chapel was built in 1791. It was demolished in 1885, and the present ornate church built; being on rising ground the spire can be seen for some distance.⁷⁷ There is another church at Besses o' th' Barn.

At the same place is a Swedenborgian Church called New Jerusalem.

The Unitarian chapel at Stand is said to owe its origin to a congregation formed after 1662 by Mr. Pyke of Radcliffe, and other ejected clergy.⁷⁸ After the toleration of Nonconformity Robert Eaton, who had been rector of Walton on the Hill till 1660, was registered as preaching in William Walker's barn at Pilkington;⁷⁹ and a chapel was built for him in 1693.⁸⁰ As in other cases the teaching became Unitarian towards the end of the 18th century. The building was restored in 1818, and a bell tower was added in 1867; the bell is dated 1709.⁸¹ There is a school in connexion with it.

OLDHAM

Kaskenemore, 1212; Haskesmores, 1226.

Aldholm, 1226; Aldhulm, 1237; Oldhulme in Oldham, 1622.

Oldum, Oldom, Holdum, Olduum, Oldun, 1292;

Oldome, 1427; Oldam, Oldham, Ouldham,¹ xvi cent.

This township, with an extreme length from south-west to north-east of over 4 miles, has an area of 4,665 acres.² The River Beal, flowing northwards, forms the boundary between Oldham on one side and Royton and Crompton on the other. To the east of it the surface rises, a height of 1,225 ft. being attained at Woodward Hill on the Yorkshire border. The rest of the surface is hilly, the average height decreasing towards the south-west. The ridge called Oldham Edge, 800 ft. high, comes southward from Royton into the middle of the town. The town of Oldham has spread over the whole of the centre of the township and beyond its borders; particularly along the road to Manchester. The population in 1901 was 137,246.

The old open Market Place may be taken as centre. From this High Street and Yorkshire Street—the latter running parallel with the old Goldburne—went eastwards through Mumps and Greenacres; a little off this road, on the northern side, is the church, to which Church Lane leads up from High Street. South-west from the Market Place the old Manchester road went out, crossed some 200 yds. away by King Street, going south to Ashton under Lyne, and west-south-west goes out the present road to Manchester. From King Street George Street goes north-east to the Market Place, and Union Street east to Mumps. West Street leads from the Market Place towards Chadderton, and from it, as a continuation of King Street, Royton Street goes north to Royton and Rochdale.

Yorkshire Street, proceeding eastward, branches out into two great roads—to Holmfirth and to Huddersfield; the latter has also a branch leading north-east to Halifax. The Lancashire and Yorkshire Railway Company has cross lines through the township. That from Manchester, opened in 1842, enters the township from the west, where it is joined by the line from Middleton, at Werneth Station, and goes through and under the town to the Central station; near here it is joined by the London and North Western, the Oldham, Ashton, and Guide Bridge, and the Great Central Companies' line, running northwards from Ashton-under-Lyne, the stations being called Clegg Street and Glodwick Road. The combined railways run north-east to another station,

lands at Benton in Yorkshire; in 1650 the value was £16 a year, but had increased to a nominal £24 by 1718, by which time other benefactions had been made, raising the income to about £30; Gastrell, *Notitia* (Chet. Soc.), ii, 117-19. The chapel was then used by the inhabitants of Kearsley and Clifton, as well as Outwood. About 1735 a gift from Queen Anne's Bounty added another £20 a year to the income; Booker, *Prestwich*, 84. In 1671 the curate, William Dennis, was presented for not wearing the surplice and omitting the holidays, particularly 29 May; he promised obedience; Visit. Rec. In 1778 the chapel was regularly served every Lord's Day; the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper was administered once a quarter; Booker, loc. cit.

⁷⁶ *Lond. Gaz.* 6 Mar. 1883.

⁷⁷ It was regularly served every Lord's Day in 1778; the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper was administered once every quarter; Booker, loc. cit.

⁷⁵ It was endowed with the tithes of Unsworth and made a rectory in 1848; *Lond. Gaz.* 10 Mar.

⁷⁶ *Notitia Cestr.* ii, 119. The endowment consisted of land at Flamborough.

⁷⁷ Nightingale, *Lancs. Nonconf.* iii, 226-33. In spite of the reason given for the division, the first minister was 'strongly Unitarian'; the cause declined in consequence.

⁷⁸ *Manch. Socinian Controversy*, 156, where it is claimed as 'originally orthodox,' though 'part of the endowments were not of orthodox origin.' For the endowments of chapel and school see *Endowed Charities Rep.* for Prestwich, 1904, pp. 4, 18.

⁷⁹ *Hist. MSS. Com. Rep.* iv, App. iv, 232.

⁸⁰ The Charities' Report shows that Henry Siddall, a tailor, of Radcliffe Bridge, in 1666 left land in Whitefield which his trustees in 1688 applied to the use of a school. The building raised was used

both as chapel and school; *Notitia Cestr.* ii, 111.

⁸¹ For a full account see Nightingale, op. cit. iii, 215-26. About 1720 there were 338 persons in the congregation, of whom thirty-one had county votes; O. Heywood, *Diaries*, iv, 316.

The chapel was wrecked by a 'Church and King' mob from Manchester in June 1715; *Pal. Note Bk.* ii, 243.

A school advertisement of 1769 is printed in *Loc. Gleanings Lancs. and Ches.* i, 253.

¹ A number of local place-names are collected in Mr. G. Shaw's *Oldham Notes and Gleanings*, i, 101, &c.

² 4,736, including 32 of inland water, according to the census of 1901; of this Oldham Below Town has 1,946 acres, and Oldham Above Town 2,790. The increase is probably due to the inclusion of the detached portion of Chadderton, to the south of the town, which took place in 1880.

Mumps, where a division takes place; the Lancashire and Yorkshire line goes northward to Shaw and Rochdale, with a station at Royton Junction, at which the Royton line goes off to the north-west, and the London and North Western's line runs eastward into Yorkshire.⁸ A canal, joining with the Medlock, starts from Hollinwood, where a reservoir was formed in 1801.

The ancient divisions of the township were Sholver,⁴ Glodwick,⁵ and Werneth,⁶ in the north-east, south-east, and south-west respectively; the modern divisions are Below Town and Above Town. Sholver lies near the middle of the Oldham part of the Beal valley; Broadbent Moss is to the south; in this division are Fulwood, Besom Hill, Moorside, Watersheddings, and Springhill. The town has spread south-east to include Glodwick; to the south are Fenny Hill and Keverlow, and to the west Alexandra Park, replacing the older name of Swine Clough. Werneth Park marks the site of Werneth Hall. About half a mile to the north of this stood Lees Hall and Bent Hall, and about the same distance to the south-east was Chamber Hall. Near this last are Hathershaw and Copster Hill. Hollinwood lies in the south-west corner of the township on the Manchester road.

There were 215 hearths liable to the hearth tax in 1666. The largest dwellings were those of Benjamin Wrigley (Chamber Hall), with eight hearths; Thomas Kay (Lees Hall), the same; Joshua Cudworth (Werneth Hall), six; and Bent Hall, six also.⁹

Defoe in 1727 thus records his impressions of the Oldham district:—‘This country seems to have been designed by Providence for the very purposes to which it is now allotted—for carrying on a manufacture—which can nowhere be so easily supplied with the conveniences necessary for it. Nor is the industry of the people wanting to second these advantages. Though we met few people without doors, yet within we saw the houses full of lusty fellows, some at the dye vat, some at the loom, others dressing the cloths; the women and children carding or spinning; all employed, from the youngest to the oldest, scarce anything above four years old but its hands were sufficient for its own support. Not a beggar to be seen, not an idle person, except here and there in an almshouse, built for those that are ancient and past working. The people in general live long; they enjoy a good air, and under such circumstances hard labour is naturally attended with the blessing of health, if not riches. The sides of the hills were dotted with houses, hardly a house standing out of a speaking distance from another; and the land being divided into small inclosures, every three or four pieces of land had a house belonging to them. . . In the course of our road among the houses we found at every one of them a little rill or gutter of running

water; . . . and at every considerable house was a manufactory, which not being able to be carried on without water, these little streams were so parted and guided by gutters and pipes that not one of the houses wanted its necessary appendage of a rivulet. Again, as the dyeing houses, scouring shops, and places where they use this water, emit it tinged with the drugs of the dyeing vat, and with the oil, the soap, the tallow, and other ingredients used by the clothiers in dressing and scouring, &c., the lands through which it passes, which otherwise would be exceeding barren, are enriched by it to a degree beyond imagination. Then, as every clothier necessarily keeps one horse at least, to fetch home his wool and his provisions from the market, to carry his yarn to the spinners, his manufacture to the fulling mill, and when finished, to the market to be sold, and the like, so every one generally keeps a cow or two for his family. By this means the small pieces of inclosed land about each house are occupied; and by being thus fed, are still further improved by the dung of the cattle. As for corn, they scarce grow enough to feed their poultry.’⁹

The assessment for the house duty in 1779 shows only twelve dwellings of £10 rent and upwards. Chamber Hall was rented at £7 and the curate's house at £6.¹⁰

Dr. Aikin in 1793 found Oldham ‘pleasantly situated on a high eminence, commanding an extensive and delightful prospect.’¹¹

The modern history of the township is mainly that of the progress of its mining and manufacturing industries, beginning from the early part of the 17th century. The great extension of them occurred at the end of the 18th century, on the introduction of machinery; the growth of the place from a few scattered hamlets to a large well-organized town has since been rapid. The story is told in detail in Edwin Butterworth's *Historical Sketches of Oldham*.¹² Hat-making was formerly an important industry, but decayed early last century, after the introduction of the silk hat.¹³ Machine-making was introduced about 1794. Cotton-mills, however, are the most prominent business establishments. The mills in the district are said to consume over a million bales yearly, nearly a third of the cotton used in the kingdom.

As in most of the unenfranchised towns, the people of Oldham became Radical in politics in the early part of last century, and some movements suspected of sedition found patronage in the town.¹⁴ John Lees, an operative cotton spinner, was one of the victims of the ‘Peterloo massacre’ of 1819, and the ‘Oldham inquest’ which followed was anxiously watched; the Court of King's Bench, however, decided that the proceedings were irregular, and the jury were discharged without giving a verdict.¹⁵ Apart from politics the district was frequently disturbed by bread and labour riots, occasioned by periods of scarcity and

⁸ The original line was extended from Werneth to Mumps in 1847; the Oldham and Guide Bridge line was opened in 1861; the line to Royton and Rochdale in 1863; and that to Newton Heath in 1880.

⁴ Solher, 1202; Solwere, 1275; Sholver, 1278; Sholuere, 1291.

⁵ Glothic, 1212; Glotheyk, 1307, 1346; Glodyght, 1474.

⁶ Vernet, 1226 (?); Wernyth, 1352.

⁹ Subs. R. bde. 250, no. 9, Lancs.

⁹ Quoted in E. Butterworth's *Oldham* (ed. 1856), 99, 100, from the *Tour through Gr. Brit.*

¹⁰ *Oldham Notes and Gleanings*, i, 190.

¹¹ *Country around Manch.* 236. Hats and strong fustians were then the staple manufactures of the place.

¹² Pp. 92 onwards; a list of the early mills is given, p. 117. An account of the state of trade in 1846 is printed in *Oldham Notes and Gleanings*, iii, 74–83.

¹³ E. Butterworth, op. cit. 121, 188, 247.

¹⁴ Three Oldham men were sentenced to transportation in 1801; *ibid.* 148. The first public meeting in favour of reform was held on Bent Green in Sept. 1816, *ibid.* 167. John Knight, a local Radical, was several times imprisoned on charges of sedition and treason; *ibid.* 173.

¹⁵ *Ibid.* 170–2. A full report of the proceedings at the inquest was published by William Hone in 1820.

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the disturbance of employment following the introduction of machinery.¹⁶

Periodical literature began with the *Oldham Observer* in 1827. The first newspaper was the *Chronicle*, published weekly from May 1854. At present there are two newspapers—the *Chronicle* and the *Standard*—issued daily and weekly.¹⁷

The Oldham Rushbearing or Wakes are on the last Saturday in August; at Glodwick on the first Saturday in October.

The people have long been distinguished for their love of vocal music.¹⁸

The Oldham dialect has many peculiarities.²⁰

Portions of the Roman road from Manchester into Yorkshire are recognizable in the southern part of the township. Some coins have been found.²¹

Lawrence Nuttall of Oldham issued a halfpenny token in 1669.²²

Lawrence Chadderton, a Puritan divine, was a native of the town,²³ as was Samuel Ogden, one of the clergy ejected in 1662 for Nonconformity.²⁴ In more recent times Thomas Henshaw, the founder of the Bluecoat Hospital, was an inhabitant and tradesman here.²⁵ The Butterworths, father and son, rendered great services to students of local history.²⁶ Sir John Mellor, judge, was born at Hollinwood House in 1809, and died in 1887.²⁷ James Whitehead, M.D., 1812–85, son of John Whitehead, a herbalist of local fame, became a distinguished physician.²⁸ Thomas Oldham Barlow, R.A., 1824–89, was a famous engraver; the Oldham Corporation in 1891 secured an almost complete collection of his works.²⁹ Sir John Tomlinson Hibbert was born at Oldham in 1824, and was member of Parliament for his native town 1862 to 1874 and 1878 to 1895, holding

minor offices in different Liberal ministries. He was made K.C.B. in 1893. On the formation of the Lancashire County Council in 1888 he was chosen to be its chairman, and retained this position till his retirement in February, 1908. He was appointed Constable of Lancaster Castle in 1907. He died at his house at Grange-over-Sands on 7 November, 1908. There should also be mentioned James Wolfenden of Hollinwood, a mathematician, who died in 1841 aged 87; John Whitehead, a botanist, who died in 1896; and James Dronsfield, of Hollinwood, 1826–96. Some prodigies are on record.³⁰

In the 12th century *KASKENMOOR*, *MANORS* including Oldham and most of Crompton, was a thegnage estate held of the royal manor of Salford as 25 or 26 oxgangs of land by a rent of 20s., and sending a judge to the hundred court. Adam Fitz Swain was the tenant, and left two daughters, between whom the inheritance was divided. Maud married Adam de Montbegon, lord of Tottington, and her son Roger was the tenant of a moiety in 1212. Amabel, the other daughter, married William de Nevill, but this moiety was in 1212 in the king's hands, 'because the heirs had not spoken with the king.'³¹ Each of the heiresses left issue, but the later inquisitions omit any reference to them, the descendants of their sub-tenants being stated to hold directly of the Earl or Duke of Lancaster as of his manor of Salford.

In 1212 the sub-tenants were Gilbert de Notton, for Crompton; Reyner de Wombwell, for Werneth and Oldham; Adam de Glodwick, for Glodwick; Ralph Tagun, for Sholver; and Henry de Scholefield, for Birshaw. Gilbert, Reyner, and Adam held a moiety under each lord; Ralph and Henry held

¹⁶ Especially in 1795, 1799, 1812, 1826, and 1834; E. Butterworth, op. cit. 138, 144, 162, 190, 213.

¹⁷ *Oldham Notes and Gleanings*, i, 194; iii, 10.

¹⁸ Notes on the musicians in the neighbourhood are given by Edwin Butterworth, op. cit. 251–5.

Elias Hall, born in Oldham, published a *Psalm-singer's Compleat Companion* in 1708. It was written at Oldham and dedicated to the Rev. H. Pigot, rector of Brindle and vicar of Rochdale.

²⁰ *Pal. Note Bk.* i, 13, &c.; *Lancs. and Ches. Antiq. Soc.* vi, 182.

²¹ *Ibid.* viii, 155, 156; x, 251.

²² *Lancs. and Ches. Antiq. Soc.* v, 87.

²³ See the account of Lees Hall.

²⁴ See below, under Horsedge.

²⁵ He was a native of Prestbury, but apprenticed in Oldham, and became hat manufacturer there. He drowned himself in 1810, having been for some years of unsound mind, and his will was therefore contested; E. Butterworth, op. cit. 153–5, 236, 237.

²⁶ James Butterworth, the father, was born in Ashton in 1771. His account of the Oldham district was published in 1817; it contains a plan of the town and map of the chapelry, together with pedigrees and a directory. A second edition appeared in 1826. The author died in 1837.

Edwin Butterworth, his son, born in 1812 at Oldham, published a brief history of the town in 1832. He compiled the local accounts for Baines' *Hist. of Lancs.* 1836. His *Historical Sketches* was begun in 1847; the instalments were inter-

rupted by his death in April 1848, but were reprinted with a supplement in 1856.

For notices of them see the account of Edwin by Mr. Giles Shaw in *Lancs. and Ches. Antiq. Soc.* xxii; *Manch. Guardian N. and Q.* no. 584, 648; *Oldham Notes and Gleanings*, i, 35, 205, 209.

Their works and the *Oldham Annals* and *Oldham Notes and Gleanings* have proved of great assistance to the editors.

²⁷ *Diet. Nat. Biog.* ²⁸ *Ibid.* ²⁹ *Ibid.*

³⁰ Elizabeth Bradbury; *Manch. Guardian N. and Q.* no. 520; Daniel Newton, *ibid.* no. 1237.

³¹ *Lancs. Inq. and Extents* (Rec. Soc. *Lancs. and Ches.*), i, 63, 64; where it is stated that Roger de Montbegon held 13 oxgangs in the thegnage by 9s. 2½d. and by half a judge; and that William de Nevill had held, in right of his wife, 13 oxgangs by 10s. 9½d. and by half a judge. Roger's under-tenants held only 12 oxgangs; while his share of the thegnage rent is apparently intended for 1 oxgang less than half, being 9½d. less than 10s. William's tenants held 13 oxgangs, and his thegnage rent indicates that he held an oxgang more than half. His holding was ten years afterwards called 14 oxgangs; it had escheated to the king; *ibid.* 132. Possibly an even division had at first been made, accounting for the 13 oxgangs each of the 1212 survey, and then 1 oxgang transferred to the Nevills, the thegnage rent being altered accordingly.

Ailric held lands in Yorkshire in the time of Edward the Confessor; his son Swain succeeded and died in 1131, being followed by his son Adam, a benefactor of

Pontefract, who died in 1159. Maud, one of his daughters, married Adam de Montbegon, and by him had a son Roger, the holder of Kaskenmoor in 1212, who died in 1227 without issue; she married, secondly, John Malherbe, and their daughters Mabel and Clemence respectively married William de la Mare, a feudatory of the honour of Richmond (having an heiress, wife of Geoffrey de Nevill) and Eudo de Longvillers; thirdly, she married Gerard de Canvill. Amabel, the other daughter, by her first husband had a daughter Sarah, who married Thomas de Burgo and had issue; and by her second husband, Alexander de Crevequer, left a daughter Cecily, who by her husband, William de Nevill, was ancestor of the Nevills of Mirfield. These particulars are from the account of the family by the late Richard Holmes in his edition of the *Chartul. of St. John of Pontefract* (Yorks. Arch. Soc.), i, 95; ii, 306, 307, with some correction.

William de Nevill occurs in 1201 as contributing 40s. to the tallage; *Lancs. Pipe R.* 151. The sheriff in 1210 rendered account of 12s. 6d. for the mediety of William de Nevill's pasture in Kaskenmoor; *ibid.* 236.

For grants to William de Nevill and Amabel his wife see also *Cal. Pat.* 1317–21, p. 245.

Oldham, Crompton, and Royton continued to be fees of the court leet of the manor and hundred of Salford down to 1856; Edwin Butterworth, *Oldham* (ed. 1856), 13.

The name Kaskenmoor does not seem to have come down to modern times.

under Nevill. The combined services due from them amounted exactly to the service required by the king.

There does not seem to have been any manor of *OLDHAM*,⁸² but in later times it was usually supposed to be attached to *WERNETH*, the holder of this portion bearing the local name; thus in 1222-6 Alward de Oldham held 2 oxgangs in Werneth by a rent of 19³/₄d.⁸³ Though a number of Oldhams appear in pleadings, &c.,⁸⁴ nothing is known of the descent of Werneth until the latter part of the 14th century, Margery daughter of Richard de Oldham and wife of John de Cudworth dying in October

1383 holding the manor of Oldham of the Duke of Lancaster by knight's service and by the rent of 6s. 6d.⁸⁵ Her son and heir, John de Cudworth, was born early in 1379, and proved his age in 1401.⁸⁶ The descent of the manor in the Cudworth family is fairly clear from this time⁸⁷ until 1683, when it was sold by Joshua Cudworth to Sir Ralph Assheton of



CUDWORTH. *Azure a fesse erminois between three demi-lions rampant or.*

⁸² Nothing further is known of Reyner de Wombwell, who held 6 oxgangs of land under Montbegon and 2 oxgangs under Nevill; *Lancs. Inq. and Extents*, i, 63, 64. The latter part, as appears by the next note, was Werneth. His name occurs as witness to deeds in the Pontefract Chartulary above referred to.

⁸³ *Ibid.* 133. The rent for 2 oxgangs agrees more nearly with 25 than 26 for the whole of Kaskenmoor. The other 6 oxgangs of Reyner may have been held by Alward, but not of the king.

⁸⁴ In the 1324 Feodary (Dods. MSS. cxxxi, fol. 386) the Oldham family's holding is stated to have been formerly that of Adam de Eccles. Among the Hopwood charters is a deed by Adam de Eccles, granting land in Oldham to Henry de 'Oldulm,' and another making a grant to Jordan de Crompton.

In 1275 Adam de Oldham and Geoffrey de Chadderton jointly took action against John de Byron respecting tenements in Oldham and Chadderton; Assize R. 405, m. 30. Probably the boundaries of Royton were in dispute.

Adam de Oldham, William de Oldham, and Adam son of Adam de Oldham appear in 1292 in suits about tenements in Oldham of which no particulars are given; Assize R. 408, m. 18, 58; *Cal. Close*, 1288-96, p. 40. At the same time Christiana daughter of Peter de Oldham claimed a messuage and land against Robert son of Warine de Marcheden; the latter had received them from Christiana's next of kin Cecily daughter of William son of Peter, whose mental soundness was the point in dispute. Finally Robert gave a mark for licence to agree, and received a quitclaim; Assize R. 408, m. 15; see also De Banco R. 108, m. 12; 110, m. 7. Isabel daughter of Adam de Oldham claimed 20 acres and half an oxgang of land against her father in 1297; De Banco R. 118, m. 124.

Among the Hopwood charters are grants from Adam son of Adam de Oldham to William his brother; one is dated 1300.

Adam de Oldham occurs again in 1302; Assize R. 418, m. 11. In 1310 he granted to Sir John de Byron of Clayton part of his waste in Oldham and Werneth; Shaw, *Oldham*, 7. Adam and his son Richard in 1319 granted Sir Richard de Byron land and wood in Menewood; and next year Richard son of Adam de Oldham released to Sir Richard son of Sir John de Byron all claim in the portion of waste granted by the charter of 1310; *ibid.* 8; Raines MSS. (Chet. Lib.), xxv, 36.

From a suit of 1315 it appears that the Earl of Lancaster had granted the manor to Sir Robert de Holland, for Geoffrey de Chadderton then appeared against Adam de Oldham on the plea that Adam as

mesne tenant should acquit him of the service demanded by Sir Robert; De Banco R. 212, m. 51d. No more is known of the Holland lordship.

Richard son of Richard de Oldham in 1324 paid 6s. 6d. for an oxgang (no doubt for Werneth); Duchy of Lanc. Rentals and Surv. 379, m. 13. A William de Oldham contributed to the subsidy in 1332; *Exch. Lay Subs.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), 31.

Richard de Oldham was lord of the town in 1354; Duchy of Lanc. Assize R. 3, m. 6d. The heirs of Richard de Oldham in 1378 held part of Oldham by a rent of 6s. 6d.; Harl. MS. 2085, fol. 422.

A later Richard de Oldham is named in 1427 in two of the Raines deeds (Chet. Lib.), bdl. 3, no. 36, 37; his daughters Ellen and Margery quitclaimed the lands called 'Hasellenshagh,' which had belonged to their father, to William son of Richard de Aspenhalgh (Aspinall), who had married Alice, another daughter. William de Aspenhalgh and John his son were in 1438 bound in 25s. to John de Colyn; *ibid.* no. 39.

⁸⁵ Towneley MS. DD, no. 1455; the clear value was £3 13s. 6d. The date of the inquisition is 1401, when John de Cudworth had come of age.

⁸⁶ *Ibid.* no. 1500. Richard de Tetlow gave evidence that John the heir was born March 1378-9, and baptized in Oldham by John de Blackburne, chaplain, the godparents being John del Forth and Margery del Helde.

The inquisition taken after the death of his father in October 1384 is printed in *Lancs. Inq. p.m.* (Chet. Soc.), i, 13. It differs in some details from the above. The tenure is more fully stated—by knight's service and by a rent of 6s. 8d.; and by doing suit to the county from six weeks to six weeks, and to the wapentake from three weeks to three weeks; also by finding a bailiff for the duke in the wapentake of Salford. The custody of the heir was given to Richard de Tetlow.

See also *Dep. Keeper's Rep.* xxxiii, App. 2.

⁸⁷ Pedigrees were recorded in 1567 (*Visit. Chet. Soc.* 15), 1613 (*ibid.* 80), and 1664 (*ibid.* 90). There is another in Butterworth, *Oldham* (ed. 1817), 69.

John Cudworth made a feoffment of his lands in Oldham in 1405; Dods. MSS. cxvii, fol. 165.

In 1445-6 John Cudworth held the twentieth part of a knight's fee in Oldham, but did not pay 5s. for relief, as being in ward; Duchy of Lanc. Knights' Fees, 2/20.

John Cudworth of Werneth contributed to the subsidies of 1523 and 1541; Shaw, *Oldham*, 15, 18.

John Cudworth, who according to the pedigrees was great-grandson of the John of 1401, died 22 June 1555, holding a

mansion-house called Werneth, eight messuages, &c., in Oldham, 4s. 7d. free rent, viz. 20³/₄d. from lands late of John Hopwood in Nether Horsedge, 21d. from land called Hazelshaw belonging to John Aspenhalgh, and 2d. from Robert Butterworth's land next Cowhill (Coohill); all held of the Duchy of Lancaster by knight's service and a rent of 6s. 8d. He had granted certain lands to Agnes daughter of Alexander Lees (who married his son Ralph), and the rest of his estate—as 'the manor of Werneth,' &c.—to his son and heir Ralph, who at the taking of the inquest in 1556 was fifty years of age; Duchy of Lanc. Inq. p.m. x, 36.

Ralph Cudworth died 28 Nov. 1558, holding much the same estate. The details of the 4s. 7d. rents are more fully given: 21³/₄d. from Edmund Ashton for land in Greenacres; 9d. from John Taylor in Over Horsedge and Redlees, 1³/₄d. from John Hopwood in Nether Horsedge, 21d. from Haslinshaw, and 2d. from the land next Cowhill. Ralph, the son and heir, was twenty-six years of age; *ibid.* xi, 62.

The descent of Redlees is given by Edwin Butterworth; it was owned in 1856 by John Bradshaw Greaves; *Oldham*, 43.

Ralph Cudworth made a settlement of the manor of Werneth, ten messuages, &c., in Oldham in 1561; Pal. of Lanc. Feet of F. bdl. 23, m. 117. He died 22 Aug. 1572 holding the manor or capital messuage of Werneth, &c., as before, and six burgages, &c., at Wakefield. By his will he set apart a third of the profits of his lands for thirteen years for the education and marriage of his daughters—Alice, Margery, and Anne. The heir was his son John, then eight years of age; Duchy of Lanc. Inq. p.m. xii, no. 1. By his will he desired to be buried in the chapel on the north side of the parish church. His wife Jane, his son and daughters, and William Ashton his brother-in-law are mentioned. He set apart £30 a year for life for his bastard son Ralph, and gave 40s. to this Ralph's son Ralph; Shaw, *Oldham*, 26. He also made provision for a posthumous son of his own, who was baptized as Ralph at Oldham, 2 Sept. 1572. He was the Dr. Ralph Cudworth, fellow of Emmanuel College, Cambridge, who was father of the celebrated author of the *True Intellectual System of the Universe*; note by Mr. J. C. Whitebrook. See *Dict. Nat. Biog.*

John Cudworth occurs in various ways in the early part of the 17th century. He was one of the first governors of Oldham Grammar School in 1606. His eldest son John was twenty-eight years of age in 1613, and died in 1652, leaving as heir his son Joshua, who in 1664 was fifty-one, and had a son, also Joshua, aged eighteen; see *Visitations*. The curious inscription

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Middleton.³⁸ The new owner gave it with his daughter and co-heir Catherine to Thomas Lister of Gisburn Park, Yorkshire; the Listers sold it for £25,500 to Parker & Sidebottom of London, by whom it was sold in 1795 to John Lees, cotton manufacturer, for £30,000.³⁹ It is now owned by Mrs. Charles Lees of Werneth Park.

Werneth Hall is said to have been originally a timber and plaster building, but this was destroyed by fire in 1456,⁴⁰ and no trace of it now remains. The present house, which is built of stone, stands on sloping ground on the south-west side of the town facing south at the corner of Werneth Hall Road and Frederick Street, the original portions dating probably from the beginning or middle of the 17th century. The house, however, has been so much altered and rebuilt both inside and out that its ancient appearance is almost wholly lost, but it was probably a building with a centre and end wings at the east and west. A portion only of the line of the old frontage remains; the west gable is still intact, but the centre portion has been replaced by a brick cottage, and the east wing appears to have been extended, and mutilated at the top, but whether it ever was a gabled building like the west wing is uncertain. There is an original entrance doorway in the east wing facing south, and

the old five-light mullioned and transomed windows with labels still remain in both wings, except that the mullions in the lower windows have been cut away. The old west wing runs through to the back of the house, where there are two five-light mullioned and transomed windows with label mouldings, but a modern stone extension has been made to the house at the west, which effectually hides the old work on that side. The existing portion of the old hall is now used as a nurses' home.

CHAMBER HALL, to the south-east of Werneth, was for some centuries the residence of the Tetlows of Werneth, said to be descended from the Oldham family.⁴¹ Lawrence Tetlow died 26 December 1582 seised of three messuages, &c., in Ashton under Lyne, held of the queen in socage by a rent of 5*d.*; and twelve messuages, &c., in Oldham, held of Ralph Barton in socage, by a barbed arrow at Christmas, and a pair of gloves (or 1*d.*) at St. Oswald's. Richard, his son and heir, was about thirty-seven years old.⁴² Early



TETLOW. *Argent a bend engrailed sable cotised gules.*

on John Cudworth's monument (died 7 June 1652, aged sixty-eight) in Oldham church, erected by his sons Richard and Thomas, is printed in Butterworth's *Oldham* (ed. 1817), 26. Thomas had been 'vitae et necis civilis arbiter classis, non nimis felix, quae petiit Jamaicam.'

The will of Joshua, the father, made in 1661 and proved in 1667, is printed in Shaw, *Oldham*, 167.

³⁸ It was the younger Joshua who in 1683 sold Werneth; *ibid.* 191. A settlement of the manors of Werneth and Oldham had been made in 1668 by Joshua Cudworth and Anne Cudworth, widow; *Pal. of Lanc. Feet of F. bdlle.* 181, m. 146.

John Smith, clerk, who died at Cambridge 22 Aug. 1638, held a messuage, &c., in Oldham of John Cudworth; Thomas Smith, the brother and heir, was sixty years of age; *Duchy of Lanc. Inq. p.m.* xxx, no. 38.

³⁹ Butterworth, *op. cit.* 69; 'It is only about 100 acres, but contains an invaluable quantity of coal, and much common right.'

In 1773 there was a recovery of the manors of Oldham and Werneth, the tenant being Thomas Lister; *Pal. of Lanc. Plea R.* 617, m. 9*d.* He was father of Thomas Lister, Lord Ribblesdale, who sold Werneth in 1792. John Lees, son of Daniel Lees of Barrowshaw, began business about 1775 in Church Lane. He aroused great indignation, as lord of the reputed manor of Oldham, by claiming tolls on the market stalls; this claim he withdrew. He died in 1823, was succeeded by his son Edward, who died in 1835, and was in turn succeeded by his sons John Frederick Lees and George Lees, the former of whom was member for the borough (Conservative) from 1835 to 1837, and died in 1867; *E. Butterworth, Oldham* (ed. 1856), 24, 129, 159; Pink and Beaven, *Parl. Repr. of Lancs.* 310.

Lord Ribblesdale's deeds contain a number relating to Oldham from 1552 onwards; they concern the Cudworth and Crompton families.

⁴⁰ Shaw, *Oldham*, 13. For description of remains in 1890, see *Lancs. and Ches. Antiq. Soc.* viii, 147.

⁴¹ In 1292 Adam son of Adam de Oldham bound himself to repay 4 marks borrowed from Adam de Prestwich, or instead grant him land called the Northhey; *Agecroft D.* 3.

In 1332 Richard de Tetlow and others did not prosecute their claim against Richard de Byron respecting lands in Oldham and Chadderton; *Assize R.* 1411, m. 12*d.*

Thomas son of Adam de Prestwich in 1335 granted to Richard son of Adam de Tetlow all his part of Adamhey in the Northwood in Oldham—perhaps the Northhey of the above-cited bond; *Raines D. (Chet. Lib.) bdlle.* 3, no. 28.

In 1337 the sheriff was ordered to inquire whether Richard de Tetlow was seised of 80 acres of land and 20 acres of wood in Oldham and Crompton; Alice his widow claimed a third of it as dower against Amabel widow of Adam de Tetlow. She further claimed dower in other lands in Oldham and Cheetham; *De Banco R.* 310, m. 160*d.*; *Cal. Close*, 1337-9, p. 116.

Another Tetlow family is shown in pleadings of 1480, in which the grant of a messuage, &c., in Oldham by Eva daughter of William de Oldham to Richard son of Adam de Tetlow, with remainder to Richard's brother Adam, was claimed by the descendants of Adam's three daughters—George Chadderton, Ralph Belfield, Bernard Butterworth, and Elizabeth his wife; *Pal. of Lanc. Writs of Assize*, 20 Edw. IV.

Hugh son of Adam de Tetlow in 1340 gave lands in the Coppethurst and Payre-halghus to his mother, Anabil, for life, with remainder to his brother Roger; *Raines D.* no. 29.

Adam son of Richard de Tetlow in 1347 successfully claimed eight messuages, &c., in Oldham, held by Adam son of Adam de Tetlow; *Assize R.* 1435, m. 39.

In 1375 Roger son of Richard de Langley gave to Richard son of Richard

de Tetlow all his lands in Manchester, Crompton, and Oldham, with remainders to Richard bastard son of Adam de Tetlow, and to John son of Richard de Oldham; *Agecroft D.* no. 48. In the following year Richard son of Richard de Tetlow occurs as plaintiff; *De Banco R.* 462, m. 121*d.* Richard de Tetlow in 1390 confirmed to Robert Walker, chaplain, a burgrave and messuage in Oldham and Manchester; Shaw, *Oldham*, 11.

Cases of cow-stealing and trespass in 1441 and 1443 bring in other members of the family—Robert and Alexander, sons of Robert de Tetlow; Robert son of Richard de Tetlow and Isabel his wife; Robert Tetlow of Oldham and Richard his son; *Pal. of Lanc. Plea R.* 3, m. 31; 5, m. 15*b.*

Richard Tetlow of Werneth granted to John Langley 5 acres in Oldham in 1474; the bounds mention Hunwalgate, Glodwick Brook, the Clough Bottom, the old kiln, the lime-pits, Hollinwood, and Northwood; John Langley resigned his claim to the Spurfield land; *Raines D. bdlle.* 3, no. 43.

Arthur Tetlow, of Chamber Hall, contributed to the subsidy in 1523; Shaw, *Oldham*, 15. John Tetlow contributed for goods in 1541; *Misc. (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.)*, i, 145. Lawrence Tetlow in 1551 made a feoffment of messuages and lands in Oldham and Ashton under Lyne; *Pal. of Lanc. Feet of F. bdlle.* 14, m. 178. He was among those summoned in 1574 to provide equipment for the muster; *Gregon, Fragments* (ed. Harland), 31.

⁴² *Duchy of Lanc. Inq. p.m.* xiv, 56. The inquisitions of the Bartons of Smithills do not mention any lands in Oldham, but the Butterworths of Butterworth also held lands of them by 'an arrow with an iron barb'; *ibid.* xiii, 2.

Richard Tetlow, in return for the surrender of a lease granted by his father Lawrence, gave a new lease of a messuage in Oldham in 1596; the rent was to be 8*s.* a year, with four hens at Christmas, two capons at Easter, and four days' shearing (reaping) in harvest. Richard further



OLDHAM : CHAMBER HALL FROM THE SOUTH-WEST



OLDHAM : BACK OF CHAMBER HALL SHOWING OLD BARN

in the 17th century the estate passed by sale to the Woods,⁴² and from them in 1646 to the Wrigleys.⁴³ Henry Wrigley served as high sheriff in 1651,⁴⁴ and in local matters was a zealous supporter of Robert Constantine in the disputes as to the church of Oldham.⁴⁵ By marriage Chamber Hall passed to the Gregges of Chester, who in 1773 succeeded to Hopwood, and took this surname.⁴⁶ Edward Gregge Hopwood died in 1798, and left the Chamber Hall estate in equal portions to his three daughters. The eldest died unmarried; Elizabeth married James Starkey of Heywood; and the other married Maj.-General Peter Heron, Tory member for Newton in Makerfield from 1806 to 1814; and the estate was recently held by their heirs.⁴⁷



GREGGE. Or three trefoils between two chevrons sable.

Chamber Hall lies on the south side of Oldham at the bottom of Chamber Lane, but on an eminence formerly commanding a very extensive prospect of the country to the south.⁴⁸ The building belongs to two periods. The older part at the back was apparently erected in 1640, along with the barn to the south, and is a stone-built house of two stories and an attic with mullioned windows and gables, and the roofs covered with grey stone slates. Some of the windows are built up and others modernized, but many of the original 17th-century windows with the labels over remain. The walling is of long thin coursed stones with squared quoins, many of great length, at the angles.

The front of the house was pulled down in 1752, when the present block facing the street was erected.

It is of three stories, built in stone in the plain classic style of the period, with central door and two square-headed windows on each side of it. There are five large windows on the first floor with small attic windows over. The ground floor windows have architraves and keystones, but the upper ones architraves only, and the sashes retain their original wood bars. The front is faced with large squared coursed stones, with chamfered quoins at the angles, the chimneys are of brick, and the roof is covered with blue slates. On the south-west of the house is a large stone barn, with stone slated roof and wide end gables. The entrance doorways in each side of the barn have also smaller stone gables, that facing the house bearing the initials G. W., I. W., and the date 1640 on a stone over a blocked three-light mullioned window. The initials are probably those of George Wood and his wife Jane (Tetlow), the builders of the house. The barn is a fine specimen of the stone-built barns of the 17th century. At the other side of the house, to the south-east, is a range of stone buildings, two stories high, now a cottage and stable, with outside stone steps at the north end. It has low mullioned windows and a stone-slatted roof, and over the stable door is the date 1648 and the initials H. W., being those of Henry Wrigley, who bought the hall from the Woods in 1646. He is said to have 'employed numerous artisans in the trade of fustian weaving, and converted part of the outbuildings of his hall into a warehouse.'⁴⁹ The door with his initials may be an insertion in one of the original outbuildings, but it is more probable that he erected this range of buildings himself for workshops.

A portion of the Tetlow estate passed by marriage to the Langleys of Agecroft, and long continued in that family.⁵⁰ Another Tetlow family was settled at

agreed that Robert his son and heir apparent should confirm it on coming of age; Shaw, *Oldham*, 40. In 1610, in conjunction with Katherine his wife, he made a settlement of his 'manors of Oldham and Werneth,' with thirty messuages, mill, lands, &c.; Pal. of Lanc. Feet of F. bdle. 78, no. 5. He died in 1611, and his will and inventory are printed by Shaw, op. cit. 51, 52; he mentions his wife Katherine, son Robert, daughter Jane wife of William Bradshaw, grandson Adam Pilkington, and others, and desired to be buried in the 'chapel church of Oldham.' The only book was 'a great old Bible'; the arms were a caliver, two great bills, a yew bow and a quiver, and a broken cross-bow; 'a pair of playing tables' was valued at 1s.

Robert Tetlow contributed to the subsidy in 1622; *Misc.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), i, 157. Nine years later he paid £10 on refusing knighthood; *ibid.* 216. As a convicted recusant he paid double to the subsidy of 1626-7 (Lay Subs. bdle. 131, no. 312), and in 1630 compounded for his sequestered two-thirds by an annual fine of £10.

⁴² By indenture dated 14 September 1635 Robert Tetlow of the Chamber Hall in or near Oldham, and William Horton of Barkisland, Yorks., conveyed to George Wood of Groby and John Wood of London, for £2,120, the capital messuage in Werneth, with lands, &c., there and in Greenacres, the names and rents of the occupiers being given; Raines D. (Chet. Lib.), bdle. 5, no. 77. This was accompanied by a fine, Robert

Tetlow and Mary his wife, William Horton and Elizabeth his wife, being deforciant; Pal. of Lanc. Feet of F. bdle. 128, no. 33.

George Wood, who is said to have married Jane the daughter and heir of Robert Tetlow, contributed to the subsidy of 1641 for his lands; Shaw, op. cit. 87. In the following year George and John Wood gave a lease of the messuage, &c., called Broad Heys in Oldham; *ibid.* 93.

⁴³ *Ibid.* 102.

⁴⁴ P.R.O. *List*, 73.

⁴⁵ See the correspondence in *Manch. Clavis* (Chet. Soc.), App. Henry Wrigley died in London, and was buried there 26 July 1658; Shaw, op. cit. 152.

Henry Wrigley the younger, son of Henry Wrigley of the Chamber in Oldham, at Ashton under Lyne on 5 April 1654 married Susannah daughter of Samuel Jenkinson of Woodhouses. A son, Henry, was buried at Ashton 23 Mar. 1654-5.

Benjamin Wrigley, the next owner of Chamber, was summoned to attend the Herald's Visitation in 1664, but no pedigree is recorded; Dugdale, *Visit.* (Chet. Soc.), p. v.

⁴⁶ E. Butterworth, *Oldham* (ed. 1856), from which this account of the descent is mainly taken. By his will, 1671, Benjamin Wrigley devised his property in Oldham, &c., to his eldest daughter Martha and her issue; and she married Joseph Gregge.

In 1681 Joseph Gregge and Martha his wife made a settlement of the manors of Werneth and Oldham; Pal. of Lanc. Feet of F. bdle. 207, m. 84. In 1682

Joseph Gregge granted a lease of a messuage at a rent of 10s., a heriot at every death, two fat hens at Christmas, a fat capon at Easter, a day's harrowing with two harrows, and three days' reaping as required; Shaw, op. cit. 187. Joseph Gregge died in 1705; *ibid.* 241.

In a recovery of the manors of Werneth and Oldham in 1712 the tenants were Benjamin Gregge, Elizabeth his wife, and Henry Ashton; Pal. of Lanc. Plea R. 496, m. 4. Benjamin Gregge was high sheriff in 1722; P.R.O. *List*, 74.

A settlement was made of the manors of Werneth and Oldham in 1773 by Edward Gregge Hopwood and Judith his wife; Pal. of Lanc. Feet of F. bdle. 389, m. 28.

⁴⁷ In 1856 these heirs were:—Edmund John Gregge Hopwood, Catherine Heron, Mary Felicia Barry, (Rev.) George Heron, Henry Heron, (Rev.) Frank George Hopwood, and Hervey Hopwood; Butterworth, op. cit. 28. On the same page is an account of the haunting of Chamber Hall.

In 1890 Chamber was stated to be the property of the Gregge Hopwoods; see an account of the place in *Lancs. and Ches. Antiq. Soc.* viii, 150-4, where is printed an ungallant couplet written on a window pane of the hall.

⁴⁸ J. Butterworth, op. cit. 1826.

⁴⁹ *Lancs. and Ches. Antiq. Soc.* viii.

⁵⁰ In 1352 lands in Crompton, Oldham, and Werneth were part of the Tetlow estate settled upon Richard de Langley and Joan his wife; *Final Conc.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), ii, 132. Disputes had

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COLDHURST,⁵¹ which was formerly an estate of the Hospitallers.⁵²

LEES HALL was long the residence of the Chadderton family of Oldham and Crompton.⁵³ George Chadderton, living in 1515, held Rowdefields, Magot Fields, and Lees in Oldham of John Cudworth by knight's service and a rent of 4*d.* His widow Katherine died 10 April 1543, and their grandson

Thomas (son of Thomas son of George) was the heir, and twenty-two years of age.^{53a} In the latter part of the 17th century it was acquired by the Lyon family,⁵⁴ and passed through various hands. Lawrence Chadderton, a famous Puritan divine, first master of Emmanuel College, Cambridge, is said to have been born here.⁵⁵ The site is now occupied by saw-mills. Bent Hall, in the same neighbour-

occurred already with other lords of Oldham, for in 1351 Adam de Chadderton and Alice his wife claimed a messuage and land against Richard de Langley and Joan his wife, William son of Robert de Radcliffe, Anabil de Tetlow, and Thomas de Parr, and though the first writ was dismissed for the error of *questus est* instead of *questi sunt* the suit continued; *Duchy of Lanc. Assize R. 1* (July), m. 4*d.*; (Lent), m. 2, 2*d.* One Hugh de Tetlow had been seised of the disputed tenement, which on his death descended to Joan de Langley as daughter of Jordan, elder brother of Hugh; but while Joan was a minor in the duke's wardship, and living at Pontefract, Adam de Tetlow, a younger brother, took possession, and granted to Adam and Alice, the plaintiffs. On the other hand it was said that Adam de Tetlow had been in seisin during Hugh's lifetime, and had granted it to one Robert de Oldham for life, and after his death to the plaintiffs.

At Easter 1354 the Langleys claimed common of pasture in 8 acres of moor and pasture, as pertaining to Joan's inheritance (a messuage and 20 acres) in Oldham, against Richard son of Richard de Tetlow, Adam son of Alice de Pussh', and Richard de Oldham, lord of the town, who had made an approvement of the waste. Sufficient pasture had been left, but the Langleys had previously had greater freedom of entry by a certain lane, in which Richard de Oldham had made a lydiat (*lideata*) and a ditch to shut out the beasts coming there. Though the lydiat could be opened at will a certain amount of injury had been caused, and the defendants made fines of $\frac{1}{2}$ mark, $\frac{1}{2}$ mark, and 10*s.* respectively. One security for Richard de Tetlow was Richard de Cudworth; *Duchy of Lanc. Assize R. 3*, m. 6*d.* A decree respecting common of pasture in favour of Robert Langley was made in 1440 against Robert Tetlow; *Dep. Keeper's Rep.* xxxiii, App. 39.

This tenement continued to descend with Agecroft until 1561, when, on Sir Robert Langley's death, it became part of the portion of his daughter Dorothy, who married James Ashton of Chadderton; the deed of settlement speaks of 'manors, messuages, lands, &c., in Oldham and Crompton'; *Raines D. (Chet. Lib.)*, bdlc. 4, no. 63; *Pal. of Lanc. Feet of F. bdlc.* 24, m. 3; 47, m. 93.

The Ashton family held already a considerable estate in Oldham, and in 1612 James Ashton died seised of ten messuages, 100 acres of land, &c., in Oldham and Glodwick, by inheritance from his father Edmund, and of twenty-four messuages, &c., of his wife's inheritance; the former were held partly of John Cudworth by knight's service and a rent of 5*d.*, and partly of the king (for the Knights Hospitallers) in socage by a rent of 6*d.*; the latter were held together with lands, &c., in Alkrington, Tonge, and Crompton, by the twentieth part of a knight's fee and 9*d.* rent; *Lancs. Inq. p.m.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), i, 225, 230.

Richard Ashton purchased a messuage, &c., in 1596 from George Towers, William and John Aspinall; *Pal. of Lanc. Feet of F. bdlc.* 59, m. 237. This land was that called Hardshaw, as may be seen by comparing its rent of 21*d.* with that in the *Inq. p.m.* of Richard Ashton; (Rec. Soc.), i, 145.

⁵¹ Edmund Tetlow of Coldhurst contributed to the subsidy of 1523; *Shaw, Oldham*, 15. The will of John Tetlow of Coldhurst, 1598-9, mentions Ellen his wife, Edmund, George, John, and Anne Tetlow his children, Abraham Taylor and Ambrose Jackson his sons-in-law; *ibid.* 41. Edmund Tetlow of Coldhurst was a freeholder in 1600, and contributed to the subsidy in 1622; *Misc. (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.)*, i, 248, 157. In 1639, on a complaint being made of the destruction of the timber, &c., on the moors of Oldham and Crompton, he stated that he and his ancestors were seised of a capital messuage called Coldhurst and about 60 acres of land; also of two messuages in Crompton and 40 acres, with rights of common on Crompton Moor, Greenacres Moor, Edge Moor, North Moor, and Hollinwood, but not on Sholver Moor. He was not aware that the king was the owner of the soil or had ever granted leases of the commons; *Shaw*, 77-81. In the following year Edmund Tetlow the elder and Edmund Tetlow the younger sold the Great Meadow near Fogg Lane for a poor's field; *Char. Com. Rep.* (1826), xvi, 227.

Anne, the eldest of three daughters and co-heirs of Edmund Tetlow, in 1709 married Edmund Radcliffe, and though she died without issue her inheritance appears to have descended to the Radcliffe's heirs; *E. Butterworth, Oldham* (ed. 1856), 45. Coldhurst itself, however, was sold to Sir Ralph Assheton, and descended like Werneth until 1804, when Lord Ribblesdale sold it to Abraham Crompton of High Crompton; *ibid.* 34.

⁵² *Lancs. and Ches. Antiq. Soc.* viii, 149-50. A rent of 4*d.* was payable, which ceased to be demanded about eighty years ago.

⁵³ Of the earlier generations of this family some account will be found under Crompton.

Robert son of Adam de Impetres, by Margaret daughter of Richard del Lees, claimed a messuage and lands in Oldham in 1351 and 1352; and as Adam de Chadderton warranted, and Thomas son of Thomas de Chadderton was summoned, it is probable the land was in or near Lees Hall; *Duchy of Lanc. Assize R. 1*, m. 5*d.*; 2, m. 8.

^{53a} *Duchy of Lanc. Inq. p.m.* vii, 31. In 1537 Thomas the heir had married Joan daughter of John Tetlow (who survived him), and lands, &c., in Lees and Crompton were then settled upon him by his grandparents. He died 16 Aug. 1572 holding Lees of Ralph Cudworth by the sixtieth part of a knight's fee and a rent of 4*d.* a year; George his son and heir was twenty-four years of

age. The estate had been increased by messuages in Manchester; *ibid.* xiii, 7. His will is printed in *Piccope's Wills* (Chet. Soc.), ii, 130; to his son Lawrence he left 40*s.* a year from his inheritance at Foulfyn in Staffordshire till the son should have an income of 100 marks a year from benefices. The Manchester burgages seem to have been acquired in 1561; *Manch. Ct. Leet Rec.* i, 63, 149.

George Chadderton died in 1606 holding lands in Staffordshire as well as in Crompton, Oldham, and Manchester. He had in 1576 espoused Mary daughter of John Kuerden, who survived him; they had several children, the heir being the son Thomas, fourteen years of age on 25 Sept. 1606; *Lancs. Inq. p.m.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), i, 62-4.

Thomas Chadderton contributed to the subsidy in 1622; *Misc. (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.)*, i, 157. Two of his leases, dated 1621 and 1662, are given in *Shaw, Oldham*, 75, 76; a day's 'shearing' was required of the tenants.

A pedigree of three generations—Thomas, George, Thomas—was recorded in 1613; *Visit. (Chet. Soc.)*, 5. Alice, co-heiress of George Chadderton, married John Greenhalgh of Brandlesholme, but died without issue.

⁵⁴ The northerly portion of the estate passed to the family of Lingard; a large part of it is said to have been sold to the ancestors of the Cleggs of Bent. In 1747 a third of the estate was held by Thomas Percival of Royton. The hall and land around it became vested in the family of Lyon, of whom were Henry Lyon (living 1681), John Lyon (1702), and Nicholas John Lyon (1747). The hall was in 1752 owned by James Bowden; in 1765 by John Winterbottom, who died in 1794; it was then sold to John Lees of Werneth, and in 1856 was held by the executors of James Whitehead; from *E. Butterworth's Oldham* (ed. 1856), 30. Canon Raines in *Notitia Cestr.* ii, 116, gives a somewhat different account of the descent. It appears, however, that Thomas Chadderton sold Lees Hall and his whole estate to John Plumpton of Warrington. In 1681 there was a suit respecting it, under the purchaser's will, between Henry Lyon and Sarah his wife (widow of John Plumpton), William Denton and Mary his wife, and William King v. John Davy, clerk, and Susan his wife; *Exch. Dep.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), 59.

William Denton resided at Lees Hall in 1684; *Shaw*, op. cit. 193. In 1696 Henry Lyon of Lees Hall was an overseer, and in that year 'old Mrs. Lyon of Lees' was buried; *ibid.* 217, 218.

⁵⁵ Lawrence Chadderton was the younger son of Thomas Chadderton, who died in 1572, and is mentioned in his father's will, as already stated. He is usually said to have been born in 1536, but did not enter Christ's College, Cambridge, until 1562. He would probably be about fourteen at that time. He embraced Protestantism, to the great scandal of his father, who is said to have sent

hood, was at one time occupied as a hat manufactory.⁵⁶

HORSEEDGE, like Coldhurst, belonged to the Knights of St. John of Jerusalem.⁵⁷ The tenants

were families named Taylor⁵⁸ and Hopwood.⁵⁹ The inheritance of the former passed to the Nuttalls and Radclyffes of Foxdenton. Whetstone Hill and Derker lie to the north-east of Horseedge.⁶⁰

him a shilling as his whole share of the inheritance; if so, the father must have relented very quickly. He was appointed master of Emmanuel in 1584, took part in the Hampton Court Conference in 1604, and in the translation of the Bible in 1611. He resigned the mastership in 1622, and died in 1640. He wrote a treatise on Justification; see *Dict. Nat. Biog.*

⁵⁶ It is named by Bishop Gastrell in 1717, and was taxed for nineteen windows in 1728; Shaw, *op. cit.* 293.

Edwin Butterworth (*Oldham*, 32) states that Bent Hall was in 1747 the property of the Rev. Samuel Sidebottom, who married Mary daughter of Alexander Radclyffe of Foxdenton; and that in 1758 it was occupied by John Clegg, hat manufacturer. The owner in 1856 was John Rowbottom. An illustrated sheet 'pedigree of the Cleggs of Bent House' was issued in 1840; Richard Clegg son of James, son of the above-named John, being the head of the family. The Cleggs acquired Westwood, formerly the property of the Whitehead family; E. Butterworth, *op. cit.* 48, 49.

There was also a Lower Bent Hall, owned by a family named Taylor; Butterworth, *ut sup.*

⁵⁷ This appears from the inquisition cited below. The land lay on the north side of High Street and Yorkshire Street, and the name is preserved in Horseedge Street. There were seven crosses around it, and it was deposited in 1620: 'I did very well know seven crosses called Seven Holy Crosses, and also called St. John's Crosses, to be bounds and meres at Horseedge lands. I did know them all, either broken or whole, and do yet know the places where every of them stood. As first, a stone cross stood at the end of Greenacres Moor; the next, a wooden cross, stood at Horseedge stile; the next, a stone cross, upon the north-east side of the Edge, called the Cross under the Edge; the next, a wooden cross in Grimby, called Grimby Cross; the next, a stone cross, called Pighill Stile Cross; the next, a wooden cross, in the Town end; and the last and seventh, a stone cross in the end of the Shoot, being, as I judge, very mean of distance from the first cross of Greenacres moor with the rest of all the crosses, which be one from another of equal distance'; from the will of John Newton, collier, printed in *Oldham Notes and Gleanings*, ii, 111, from the Raines MSS. xxiv, 88.

⁵⁸ Horseedge Hall was to the north-east of the church. The inquisition of John Cudworth (1556) already cited shows rents from John Taylor of Over Horseedge and John Hopwood of Nether Horseedge.

John Taylor died in 1574 holding land called Redleigh of Robert Tetlow and John Cudworth by fealty and *qd. rent*, an acre at Okeden in Chadderton of the three lords of the town; also the capital messuage called Horseedge in Oldham with 40 acres of land, &c., of Queen Elizabeth by fealty and *7½d. rent*. The inquisition was not taken until 1619—by which time the Hospitallers' lands had been granted to the Earl of Derby—and Edmund Taylor, the son and heir, was sixty-seven years of age; his son Edmund was living; *Lancs. nq. p.m.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), ii, 153.

Edmund Taylor in 1596 granted a lease of a close called the Pighill ($\frac{1}{2}$ acre) in Horseedge to Roger Taylor, clothier, at a rent of 5s. and a day's 'shearing' in harvest; 40 marks was paid; Shaw, *Oldham*, 39. Edmund Taylor was returned as a freeholder in 1600; *Misc.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), i, 247.

In 1622 Robert Tetlow of Werneth and Edmund Taylor of Horseedge claimed an estate in 'so much of the open land called Oldhulme at Oldham as it is divided within the crosses,' as also wastes, &c., within Oldham, Werneth, and Greenacres. They wished to inclose and improve the lands, and had agreed with the freeholders to allow them reasonable shares, but the lords of the adjoining manors of Chadderton and Royton objected; Shaw, *Oldham*, 59.

In the time of Charles I it was stated that Edmund Taylor, who had leased his capital messuage and demesne lands of Horseedge, John his son, John Heap (brother-in-law of the latter), and John Jackson had broken down a stable belonging to Horseedge Hall, taken the tenant's cows and horses kept there, and driving them into Derbyshire, sold them at Ashbourne Fair. John Bretland, who had married Katherine daughter of Richard Nuttall—another daughter was Elizabeth, perhaps the wife of John Taylor—became surety for them, and they were acquitted, but £35 had to be paid as compensation to the tenant. The value of Horseedge was given as £30 a year; Duchy of Lanc. Plead. ccix, B, 26. See also *Lancs. and Ches. Rec.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), ii, 249.

Elizabeth, widow of John Taylor, in 1649 compounded for her husband's delinquency; he had assisted the king in the 'first war'; *Cal. of Com. for Compounding*, iii, 2043. She was concerned in a dispute as to the tithes of Horseedge in 1659; *Exch. Dep.* 32.

In 1663 an agreement was made as to the purchase of a third part of Horseedge Hall, with its common of pasture, turbarry, mines of coal, slate, &c., by Elizabeth Taylor, widow, from her daughter Katherine wife of Adam Banks of Wigan, mercer; it appears that Katherine was daughter and co-heir of John Taylor son of Edmund; Shaw, *op. cit.* 161. A further agreement in 1668 shows that the other daughters, then unmarried, were named Elizabeth and Eleanor; *ibid.* 170. Elizabeth soon afterwards married William Langley of Whittle; *ibid.* 173, 175. By 1674 Eleanor had married Thomas Nuttall of Tottington; 181. William Langley of Horseedge was buried at Oldham in 1689; 204. In 1697 Elizabeth Langley, widow, mortgaged her moiety of Horseedge; 219, 229, 232. In 1705 William Langley of Netherwood Hall, Darley, son and heir of Elizabeth, sold his moiety of Horseedge to Thomas Nuttall of Tottington, who thus acquired the whole; 240. By his will, dated 14 Mar. 1726-7, he gave his estates to his granddaughter Margaret daughter of Adam Bagshaw by Margaret, only child of the testator; with remainder to his kinsman Thomas son of William Langley of Thornsow, Yorkshire. He also left money for the poor of Oldham and the school there; *ibid.* 286-89. Margaret,

the heiress, married in 1731 Robert Radclyffe of Foxdenton, and conveyed Horseedge to that family; Burke, *Commoners*, iv, 403.

Canon Raines states that the Langleys continued to have a moiety of the estate, which was in 1849 the property of Joseph Jones of Walshaw House; *Notitia Cestr.* ii, 116. Some Horseedge deeds from Raines MSS. (Chet. Lib.), xxiv and xxxvii, are printed in *Oldham Notes and Gleanings*, ii, 164, 165, 169; iii, 29.

⁵⁹ In 1517 James son and heir of John Hopwood of Horseedge sold to Edmund Ashton of Chadderton a close of land called the Pighill, near Horseedge Moor; and a little later sold other lands, including Walshaw, Lower Raude, and the Spring; Raines D. (Chet. Lib.), bde. 4, no. 49-57.

It has been stated above that James Ashton in 1612 held lands, formerly the Hospitallers', by a rent of 6½d. The Radclyffes of Foxdenton held another portion by a rent of 4d.

Edmund Hopwood and Joan his wife in 1570 and 1587 sold small pieces of land to Ralph Walker; Pal. of Lanc. Feet of F. bde. 32, m. 13; 49, m. 11.

There was in the 18th century a family of Hopwood at Bent Brow; E. Butterworth, *Oldham* (ed. 1856), 33. At Lower Horseedge, Greenacres, and Swineclough lived the Ogden family, of whom came Samuel Ogden, a celebrated Nonconformist minister, ejected from Mackworth in 1622; he died in 1697; *ibid.* 55; *Dict. Nat. Biog.*

The New House in Greenacres was, with other property, granted on lease by Isaac Ogden in 1698 to Katherine Percival of Royton; Manch. Free Lib. D. 108.

Edmund Ogden in 1702 purchased from Henry Lyon, John Lyon, Isaac Lyon, and Sara his wife two messuages and lands with appurtenances in Crompton and Oldham; Hulme D. 116-17.

⁶⁰ 'Whetstone hill is one of the most ancient homesteads in the township. The Kershaw family have been seated here a considerable period'; E. Butterworth, *Oldham*, 60. Dirtcar, now Derker, was owned by John Buckley in 1758, and by James Greaves in 1856; *ibid.* 42.

Broadbent's and Hopkin Fold were other houses in the vicinity. Some Hobkin deeds from the Raines MSS. xxiv, are printed in *Oldham Notes and Gleanings*, ii, 171, 181; they relate the marriage of Edmund son of Edward Hobkin, 1526-9. Richard Hobkin of Oldham contributed to a subsidy in 1523 for lands; Shaw, *Oldham*, 15. A settlement of two messuages, &c., in Oldham was made by Edward Hopkin in 1537, Margaret and Edmund Hopkin being tenants for life; Pal. of Lanc. Feet of F. bde. 11, m. 59. For disputes as to their lands see *Duchy Plead.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), ii, 83-7, 216-18. Edmund Hobkin occurs in 1552; Shaw, *Oldham*, 19. He sold four messuages, &c., to Thomas Radcliffe in 1556; Pal. of Lanc. Feet of F. bde. 16, m. 36. Arthur Hopkin of Hopkin Fold in 1649 leased or mortgaged the Great Hardfield to Henry Wrigley of Chamber; Shaw, *op. cit.* 110. Hopkin Green was formerly near Oldham Church.

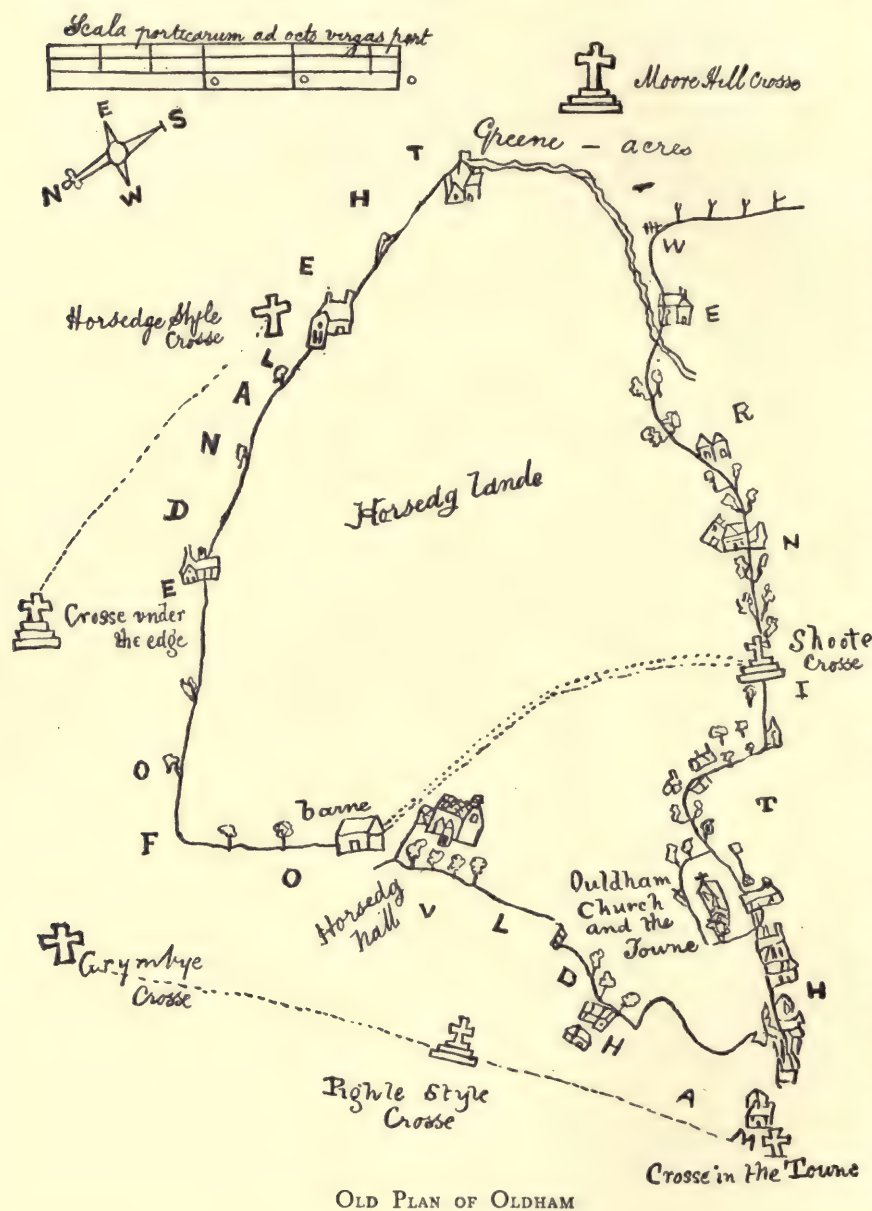
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Hollinwood,⁶¹ Hathershaw,⁶² and other lands in the southern part of Werneth have left no trace in the records. Hathershaw Hall is a long low two-story stone building dating from the end of the 16th century, but with its eastern end rebuilt a century later, and what remains is probably but a fragment. It is divided into five cottages, and stands back from the road, facing south with an open space in front, in the midst of mills and small house property. The older portion is about 54 ft. in length with a slightly projecting wing at the west end, and is described as

having quite gone to decay in 1826.⁶³ There have been sufficient repairs since to keep the building habitable, but nearly all trace of its original appearance has gone. There is a built-up stone doorway with a moulded head at one end, and a three-light stone mullioned window on the first floor at the other, but all the other windows are modern, and the building is of little or no architectural interest. The east end appears to have been rebuilt in 1694,⁶⁴ and is loftier than the older part, with quoins at the angles and square-headed two-light windows with centre mullion

and transom. The windows are of good design, 3 ft. 6 in. wide, and 5 ft. 9 in. high, with double chamfered heads and jambs, and placed with an almost 18th-century regularity. The floor-line is marked by a string-course, below which the walling is of large square-coursed blocks, and above of rough narrow-coursed stones. This portion of the building, which is about 38 ft. long, consists of two cottages, in one of which the mullions and transoms of the windows have been cut away and modern casements inserted. Two of the upper windows are built up, and a new doorway has been made to the second cottage. The roofs of the two portions of the building are of different levels, and are covered with old grey stone slates, with stone ridge tiles. The end gables yet preserve their ball ornaments, though the copings are gone. Some of the old stone ornaments of the house now lie in front of one of the cottages in a small inclosed garden.

Clarksfield, on the eastern border, was held of the Cudworths by the Ashtons of Ashton-under-Lyne; it descended to the Booths.⁶⁵ It was in 1625 purchased by the



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⁶¹ Hollinwood was formerly part of Chadderton; Shaw, *Oldham*, 253. Hollinwood Green, Oak, and Lyme House are noticed by E. Butterworth, op. cit. 49, 50.

⁶² Hathershaw Hall was the residence of the Sandfords in the 17th century, of whom Edward Sandiford was a member of the classis in 1646; in the next century it had been acquired by the Sidebottoms, and Alexander Radclyffe Side-

bottom was the owner in 1856; *ibid.* 35. The name is said to be a corruption of Hazleshaw, mentioned above as belonging to the Aspenhalghs and Ashtons. Copster Hill, Pauletts, and Hollins are also noticed; *ibid.* 51, 52.

⁶³ Jas. Butterworth, *Oldham*.

⁶⁴ *Lancs. and Ches. Antiq. Soc.* viii.

⁶⁵ Sir John de Ashton, who died in 1428, held a messuage and land called Copthurst; *Lancs. Inq. p.m.* (Chet. Soc.),

ii, 22. Coppedhurst has been mentioned in a previous note regarding the Tetlow family. In 1507 the same was said to be held of John Cudworth, as cousin and heir of William son of Adam de Oldham, by the service of 2s. 6d. and an iron arrow; *ibid.* ii, 138. The service seems to have been compounded for, and is not mentioned in the inquest after the death of George Booth in 1543; *Duchy of Lanc. Inq. p.m.* vii, 7.

occupier, John Lees, and has descended in the family to the present time.⁶⁶ The Cudworths also had the whole or part of Greenacres.⁶⁷

Roundthorn was part of the estate of Sir Ralph Assheton of Middleton, and on his death in 1716 passed to Sir Nathaniel Curzon of Kedleston, in right of his wife Mary, a co-heir of Sir Ralph's, and descended to Earl Howe.⁶⁸ Waterloo, formerly Sheep-washes, was in the 17th and 18th centuries the residence of the Brierley family.⁶⁹



LEES. *Argent two bars raguly between three crosslets fitchy in chief and a falcon belled in base all gules.*

⁶⁶ E. Butterworth, *Oldham* (ed. 1856), 38–40. The family were actively engaged in the business of the district as bankers, cotton spinners, and coal owners. John Lees of Fairfield in 1824 built Salem Moravian chapel and schools at Clarksfield. There is a pedigree in Burke, *Landed Gentry*—Lees of Thurland Castle, near Kirkby Lonsdale.

⁶⁷ Greenacres is mentioned as early as 1266, when Margery widow of Jordan de la Leye claimed dower, a messuage, and 30 acres there against Richard de la Leye. Margery had a son Adam; *Curia Regis* R. 176, m. 5 d.

In the inquisition of Ralph Cudworth, above cited, Edmund Ashton is stated to have paid a rent of 21½d. for land in Greenacres in 1558. Some was bought from George Chadderton in 1537; *Pal. of Lanc.* Feet of F. bdle. 11, m. 43. 'In 1702 a Mr. Rainshaw possessed much property here, which in 1725 was in the hands of Mr. Rothwell, and in 1752 of the Rev. James Rothwell, vicar of Deane'; E. Butterworth, op. cit. 41, 58.

Dowry Mill and Wellyhole were in Greenacres. The latter of these was purchased from John Mayall by Edmund Ogden in 1748; *ibid.* 62.

⁶⁸ *Ibid.* 44. Curzon Street is on the east of this Roundthorn; there was another place of the same name near Glodwick; information of Mr. S. Andrew.

⁶⁹ *Ibid.* 56. The Brierleys or Brearleys were also seated at Barrowshaw, which became the property of the Radcliffes of Royton; *ibid.* 61. The last-named family also purchased Priest Hill; *ibid.* 45.

⁷⁰ In 1212 Adam de Glodwick held two oxgangs of land of Montbegon and two of Nevill; *Inq. and Extents*, i, 63, 64. The latter portion escheated to the Crown, and about ten years later Agnes de Glodwick should have been in ward to the king in respect of two oxgangs held by a rent of 19½d. and by finding the sixth part of a judge; *ibid.* 128. Jordan de Glodwick gave land in Oldham to his son Richard; 1d. rent was due to the king; Hopwood Chart.

⁷¹ *Final Conc.* i, 210; a fine (1307) between Alexander Atherton, plaintiff, and Hugh de Atherton and Joan his wife, deforciant, of a messuage, 100 acres of land, &c., in Oldham and Glodwick.

In 1292 Joan relict of Adam de Holdene was in possession of a messuage and 100 acres of land in Oldham, inherited from her mother Agnes, who had married one Ralph de Astone (or Ashton). It is just possible that this Agnes was identical with Agnes the heiress in 1222–6. Being left a widow she married Jordan de

Crompton, and Joan was their daughter. Later a claim to the estate was made on behalf of Jordan's son Adam, then a minor, probably the son of a later marriage, whom the father wished to benefit out of his former wife's estate. The jury, however, held that Jordan had never been seised as of fee, so that Joan's claim was upheld; *Assize R.* 408, m. 7, 12. This Joan seems afterwards to have married Hugh de Atherton, for the claim of Adam de Crompton was prosecuted in 1301 against Hugh de Atherton and Joan his wife, who was seised when he married her; *Assize R.* 419, m. 13d.

Hugh de Atherton in 1324 paid 3s. 11d. for two oxgangs in Glodwick; *Duchy of Lanc.* Rentals and Surv. 379, m. 13. In other versions the rent is given as 3s. 2d. or 3s. 4d.; *Lancs. Inq. and Extents*, ii, 105. Richard de Oldham, clerk, and others, were in 1343 charged with having broken into Hugh de Atherton's houses in Glodwick; *Assize R.* 430, m. 32 d. For this Atherton family see further under Hindley and Aintree.

⁷² In 1346 Sir Robert de Nevill was holding two oxgangs in Glodwick by the service of 3s. 2d. rent, pature of the sergeants, and double rent at death; *Add. MS.* 32103, fol. 146.

In the following year the estate in Oldham and Glodwick—3 messuages, 140 acres of land, &c.—was settled by Sir Robert de Nevill of Hornby and Joan his wife (whose inheritance it was) upon his son John and Isabel his wife, with remainders to John's brothers; *Final Conc.* ii, 125. As a result of this a claim was made in 1363 by John de Nevill and Isabel his wife against Sir John (? Robert) de Nevill of Hornby, and Joan his wife; *De Banco R.* 416, m. 396 d.

⁷³ The Nevill estates passed to the Harringtons, and Sir William de Harrington is recorded to have paid the chief rent in 1378; *Harl. MS.* 2085, fol. 442. In 1445–6 William de Strangeways held the two oxgangs of land in Glodwick in socage, rendering 3s. 2d. yearly, in right of his wife, who held by conjoint feoffment; *Duchy of Lanc. Knights' Fees*, bdle. 2, no. 20.

In 1526 the Radcliffes of Foxdenton paid 3s. as the chief rent due for Chadderton and Glodwick (Shaw, *Oldham*, 16); but about the end of the century Richard Radcliffe was responsible for 3s. 2d. rent for Glodwick; Baines, *Lancs.* (ed. 1868), i, 447. The inquiries are not clear. Thomas Radcliffe, who died in 1567, held fifty messuages, &c., in Oldham of the queen, as of the late Priory of St. John of Jerusalem, by a rent of 4d.; *Duchy of*

GLODWICK, another of the ancient divisions of Oldham,⁷⁰ came by 1301 into the possession of Hugh de Atherton,⁷¹ and descended to the Nevills of Hornby.⁷² The later history is uncertain. In the 16th century the Radcliffes of Foxdenton paid the chief rent of 3s. 2d. due to the duchy, but the Standish and Ashton families also had shares.⁷³ During the 17th century the estate appears to have been sold in parcels.⁷⁴ The duchy rent of 3s. 4d. was in 1779 paid by the Rev. — Richardson.⁷⁵

SHOLVER was in 1212 found to have been held by Ralph Tagun as 4 oxgangs of land; it was part of the Nevill estate then in the king's hand.⁷⁶ By 1246 it seems to have become divided;⁷⁷ but in 1324 Robert (or Roger) de Ashton paid the chief rent due for it, holding in right of his wife,

Lanc. Inq. p.m. xi, 25. In 1589 the tenure was stated more in detail; four messuages, &c., in Oldham, were held of the queen as of the dissolved priory by a rent of 4d.; another messuage, &c., was held of John Cudworth by a rent of 5d.; the rest of the lands, &c., in Oldham were held of the queen as of her Duchy of Lancaster, by a rent of 6d.; but of whom the lands in Glodwick were held the jury did not know; *ibid.* iii, 13. William Radcliffe, the disinherited, held two messuages in Glodwick of the queen in socage by a rent of 6d.; *ibid.* xv, 23. Lands in Glodwick were included in a mortgage or sale by William Radcliffe in 1627; the tenants were—Pollit, Heap, and others; Shaw, op. cit. 73. John Pollit in 1666 sold his interest in the lease to Edward Taylor; *ibid.* 166.

Edward Standish of Standish died in 1610 holding six messuages, 60 acres of land, &c., in Glodwick of the king in socage, by 11½d. rent; *Lancs. Inq. p.m.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), i, 190.

James Ashton of Chadderton, who died in 1612, as above stated, held messuages and lands in Glodwick; *ibid.* i, 230.

⁷⁴ Swineclough was leased in 1570 by James Ashton and Dorothy his wife to Adam Ogden; it had lately been occupied by his father Adam Ogden, and the new lease was for the lives of Adam, Anne his wife, and Adam his son; Raines D. (Chet. Lib.). It was sold in 1670 to Adam Ogden by Edmund Ashton; E. Butterworth, op. cit. 37. The Dawsons and other owners of land at Glodwick are also named; and others, including Andrew of Lowside, at pp. 54, 56.

⁷⁵ *Duchy of Lanc. Rentals*, bdle. 14, no. 25 m.

⁷⁶ *Lancs. Inq. and Extents*, i, 64; the thegnage rent in later times is usually given as 3s. 2d.

Ten years earlier, Maud widow of Ralph Tagun made an agreement as to her dower with various tenants in Sholver; *Final Conc.* i, 20. Alward Tagun was on the jury for Salfordshire in 1242–3; *Inq. and Extents*, i, 153.

⁷⁷ In 1246 Andrew de Sholver complained that the Abbot of Roche and others had diseised him of his free pasture of Sholver; *Assize R.* 404, m. 1. In another plea respecting a mine Andrew was joined by Alward Tagun and Roger de Pilkington; *ibid.* m. 2. The three occur in other suits respecting lands in Sholver; *ibid.* m. 7, 9.

Margery widow of Geoffrey de Chetham in 1275 claimed dower in a messuage and plough-land in Sholver against Geoffrey de Bracebridge; *De Banco R.* 9, m. 32 d.

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it being of the inheritance of Gilbert de Hulme.⁷⁸ In 1346 it was held in moieties by Richard de Pilkington and Cecily de Hulme.⁷⁹ From the Hulmes it descended to the Prestwich family,⁸⁰ who held it till the middle of the 17th century. It was sold to various persons about 1657.⁸¹

Count Hill,⁸² Polden,⁸³ Crowley,⁸⁴ Watersheddings, Barrowshaw, Broadbent, Peacote, Fullwood, and Hodgeclough, lie in this portion of the township.

The growth of the town at the beginning of last century induced some of the inhabitants to procure an Act of Parliament, 1802-3, for the inclosure of the moors; the commissioners appointed had by 1807 completed the division of the lands among the landowners and occupiers.⁸⁵

The government of the town appears to have been formerly in the hands of the vestry or the county magistrates.⁸⁶ In 1826 a board of Improvement Commissioners was constituted, who governed the town for twenty-two years.⁸⁷ During this time the Reform Act was passed, and in 1832 Oldham was

made a parliamentary borough, the limits for this purpose including the whole chapelry. Two members were assigned to it. One of the first elected was the celebrated William Cobbett, who represented the place till his death in 1835.⁸⁸

The ratepayers becoming discontented with the administration of affairs by the commissioners,⁸⁹ petitioned for incorporation, and a charter was granted on 13 June 1849, constituting the inhabitants of the township a municipal borough;⁹⁰ the town was divided into eight wards, each having an alderman and three councillors.⁹¹ William Jones, a representative of Werneth Ward, was the first mayor.⁹² A town hall had been built in 1840; the present town hall succeeded in 1879. One of the first acts of the new council was to create a police



BOROUGH OF OLDHAM.
Sable a chevron inverted and plain cotised or between three owls argent, on a chief engrailed of the second a rose between two annulets gules.

Lands in Sholver were among the moiety of the Trafford Estate given to Geoffrey de Chadderton before 1278; *Final Conc.* i, 153. In 1290, Ellen widow of Geoffrey de Bracebridge claimed lands in Oldham against Alexander de Pilkington and Geoffrey de Chadderton; De Banco R. 81, m. 64. In 1291 his demesne lands in Sholver were among the places named in the grant of free warren to Roger de Pilkington; Chart. R. 84, m. 10, 41. From suits of the same time or a year later it appears that Geoffrey de Bracebridge had held a messuage, 60 acres of land, &c. in Sholver, which should have descended to his sister Christiana, wife of William son of Robert de Stanringes; but Geoffrey de Chadderton and Roger de Pilkington (perhaps as heirs of Chetham) had taken possession of the messuage and lands, Adam de Impetres had refused the 14d. rent, and Robert Attehill the rent of four barbed arrows. Geoffrey and Roger showed a charter from the plaintiffs releasing all claim to the tenements in dispute, and though it was repudiated, the jury decided for the defendants, ordering William to gaol because he had denied his deed. Afterwards he made fine by two marks; Assize R. 407, m. 2; 408, m. 12.

Margery the niece of Geoffrey de Bracebridge was in 1305 plaintiff and defendant in several pleas regarding her uncle's lands in Oldham; in one case the plaintiffs included Geoffrey de Chadderton the elder, Roger de Pilkington, Adam de Impetres, &c.; Assize R. 420, m. 8; also m. 1, 8, 9.

In 1317-8 Geoffrey de Chadderton granted to Gilbert son of Cecily daughter of William le Bagher land in Sholver which he had had of the gift of Adam de Impetres and William son of Henry de Oldham, with remainder to Thomas the brother of Gilbert; Hyde of Denton D. Harl. MS. 2112, fol. 153, &c.

Robert son of Adam de Impetres was a claimant of lands in Oldham in July 1351; Duchy of Lanc. Assize R. 1, m. 5 d.

⁷⁸ Duchy of Lanc. Rentals and Surv. 379, m. 13, where the tenant is called Robert de Ashton and the rent given as 11s. 8d.; and *Lancs. Inq. and Extents*, ii, 105, where the rent is given as 3s. 2d.

In 1322 Robert de Ashton and Margery his wife (in her right) appeared against Gilbert son of Cecily daughter of William the Baggere concerning a messuage and land in Oldham by writ of *Quare cessavit per biennium*; De Banco R. 244, m. 45.

⁷⁹ Add. MS. 32103, fol. 146; each held one oxgang in socage, by a total rent of 2s. 2d. (for 3s. 2d.), providing puture, and paying a double rent at death. A note in the manuscript adds: 'The heirs of Richard de Pilkington, 3s. 2d.'

⁸⁰ The Hulme family perhaps bought the Pilkington share. In 1445-6 Ralph Prestwich held one oxgang in Sholver in socage, rendering 3s. 2d. yearly; Duchy of Lanc. Knights' Fees, bdle. 2, no. 20. Thus the full rent is paid, though only one oxgang is ascribed to him out of the original four.

A dispute as to Sholver occurred in 1529, Ralph Prestwich being plaintiff; *Ducatus Lanc.* (Rec. Com.), i, 138.

Edward Prestwich paid the chief rent of 3s. 2d. in the time of Elizabeth; Baines, *Lancs.* (ed. 1868), i, 447. In 1639 Edmund Tetlow of Coldhurst disclaimed any right of common on Sholver Moor, conceiving that it belonged to Thomas Prestwich, as parcel of his lordship of Sholver; Shaw, *Oldham*, 81.

⁸¹ E. Butterworth, op. cit. 42.

⁸² In 1657 Joseph Clegg purchased land at Count Hill from Sir Thomas Prestwich; this and other purchases descended to Joseph Clegg, who died in 1835; *ibid.*

⁸³ Palden in Oldham was at one time owned by the rectors of Prestwich; L.T.R. Mem. R. 169 (5 Hen. IV), m. xii. Later it was 'the abode of a most eccentric rustic wit named John Brierley, a carrier, who from his long connexion with this place was called "Old Poden," and who was buried 17 Mar. 1688'; E. Butterworth, op. cit. 62.

⁸⁴ Once the residence of a family of Byrom; *ibid.*

⁸⁵ E. Butterworth, 156; 'these proceedings were not popular amongst the body of the people, for the rights of unrestrained pasturage for cattle and fowl, and the advantages of the moors as places of recreation and exercise, had rendered them spots deeply endeared to successive genera-

tions.' The Acts were 42 Geo. III, cap. 59; 43 Geo. III, cap. 44; a copy of the award may be seen at the County Office, Preston. See also an award in 1804 in King's Bench Plea R. Trin. 44 Geo. III, m. 393. Another Act was passed in 7 Geo. IV, cap. 67. For the moors in 1640, with a plan, see *Oldham Notes and Gleanings*, ii, 53; also 145, 204.

⁸⁶ Some of the Constables' accts. (from 1697) are printed in Shaw's *Oldham Notes and Gleanings*, i, 5, &c. From these it appears that they used to attend Salford Leet Court.

⁸⁷ E. Butterworth, *Oldham*, 227. The qualification for assuming the office was the possession of property worth £50 or the occupation of premises rented at £30 a year. The commissioners numbered 360 in 1848.

The Act (7 Geo. IV, cap. 117) was known as the Oldham Police Act. Its powers were transferred to the corporation in 1850.

⁸⁸ Pink and Beaven, *Parl. Repr. of Lancs.* 307. John Morgan Cobbett, son of William, represented the borough from 1852 to 1859 as a Liberal, and from 1874 till his death in 1877 as a Conservative. Sir John Tomlinson Hibbert was member from 1862 to 1874, 1877 to 1886, and 1892 to 1895. John Platt, member from 1865 to 1872, has a statue near the town hall.

⁸⁹ In 1847 'a disagreement arose between the political parties in the borough with regard to the conduct of the police, which was then under the management of the Commissioners, and the result was the introduction, by the magistrates, of the county force,' to the dissatisfaction of the people; E. Butterworth, op. cit. (ed. 1856), 227.

⁹⁰ Confirmed by Act of Parliament 13 & 14 Vict. cap. 42; the boundaries were extended in 1880 by 43 & 44 Vict. cap. 147. An Improvement Act was obtained in 1865, 28 & 29 Vict. cap. 311.

⁹¹ The area of the borough remains unchanged, but has been divided into twelve wards—Clarksfield, Coldhurst, Hartford, Hollinwood, Mumps, St. James's, St. Mary's, St. Paul's, St. Peter's, Waterhead, Werneth, and Westwood.

⁹² E. Butterworth, op. cit. 228-9.

force.⁹³ In 1854 the gas and water works, established by an Act passed in 1825,⁹⁴ were purchased.⁹⁵ The paving and lighting of the town were attended to, and public baths were opened.⁹⁶

Markets and fairs had grown up,⁹⁷ and in 1855 a covered market was built by a private company. This was in 1865 purchased by the corporation; the fish market, adjoining it, was built in 1873.⁹⁸ The Lyceum, in the hands of trustees, was erected in 1856 as a library and reading room;⁹⁹ attached to it is a school of science and art, erected in 1864, and enlarged in 1880–81.¹⁰⁰ In the free library, art gallery, and museum is a reference and lending library, and an exhibition of pictures is held annually; the building was opened from 1883 to 1887. A school board was formed in 1871;¹⁰¹ its offices were built in 1893. Alexandra Park was opened in 1865.¹⁰² There are cemeteries at Greenacres,¹⁰³ Hollinwood, and Chadderton. The Corporation Electric Tramways and others provide services in the borough, and connect it with Middleton and Ashton.¹⁰⁴

The infirmary was built in 1870, and has been several times enlarged. There is a medical mission hall.

The other public buildings include the county court, post office, and theatres.¹⁰⁵ The workhouse is in Rochdale Road.

The 6th Volunteer Battalion of the Manchester Regiment has its head quarters at Oldham;¹⁰⁶ there is also a squadron of yeomanry.

The church of *ST. MARY*¹⁰⁷ stands *CHURCH* on high ground east of the market-place on an ancient site, but is a modern building belonging to the early part of the 19th century. In 1476, Ralph Langley, parson of Prestwich, built 'a body of a church' there. This seems to imply the existence of a chancel at that date. The indenture between Rector Langley and the masons he employed is still preserved in Prestwich Church, and sets forth that the building is to be of four arches on each side, of hewn stone, 12 ft. wide between the pillars and 18 ft. high, with a width in the nave of 20 ft., and a cross arch at each end, that

at the west 'according for a steeple with two buttresses.' The aisles were to be 10 ft. wide, and the outer walls 12 ft. high, with five windows to the south aisle, one at each end and three upon the side, and a door and porch. The north aisle was to have four windows, one at each end and two in the north wall, and a door, but apparently no porch. Four of the windows were to be of three lights and the rest of two lights, and there were to be three buttresses to the south aisle and four to the north. This work, with later restorations¹⁰⁸ and additions, apparently lasted till the beginning of the last century.

Illustrations of the old church as it existed towards the close of the 18th century¹⁰⁹ show a building consisting of chancel with north and south chapels, nave with north and south aisles, south porch, and west tower, and a vestry added at the east end under the chancel window in 1777.¹¹⁰

James Butterworth, writing in 1817, says that the north wall had been built at three distinct periods, the portion eastward from the tower to the fourth buttress being the most ancient and containing the original windows, 'each window on the north side being composed of two pointed arches and on the south side of three, each compartment of equal height divided by mullions and with trefoiled heads.' This would tolerably well agree with the description of the 15th-century work set out in Langley's indenture, and presumably refers to his work. It suggests that the four three-light windows of the contract were all in the south aisle. Butterworth goes on to say, 'from the fourth to the fifth and from the fifth to the sixth buttress . . . are successive enlargements . . . other marks of enlargements are visible in the interior, which is a plain, simple, unadorned specimen of the early (*sic*) gothic style consisting of a body and two side wings or aisles.' The two chapels north and south of the chancel, and at the east end of the aisles, were clearly added after the completion of Langley's nave, which had eastern windows to both of its aisles, but whether the chancel was of later or earlier date than 1476 is uncertain. The chapel north of the chancel was known as the Cudworth chapel, being

⁹³ E. Butterworth, op. cit. 231.

⁹⁴ The first Act was 6 Geo. IV, cap. 171. The original reservoirs were at Strinesdale on the Yorkshire border; but many others have since been formed in the hills.

⁹⁵ E. Butterworth, op. cit. 233.

⁹⁶ Ibid. 231–5. The baths were enlarged in 1880. In 1894 new baths were built at Waterhead.

⁹⁷ A 'sort of market' on Saturday evenings, with standings in the main streets, was held before 1790; but became fully established about 1804. The fair held on 2 May began probably in the 18th century; that in Oct. a little later; while that on 8 July began in 1807; *ibid.* 160–1. At present fairs are held on the Thursdays after 2 Feb., 2 May, and 8 July, and the Wednesday after 11 October.

⁹⁸ The Public Health Act 1848 and Local Government Acts 1858 and 1861 were adopted in part in 1863; *Lond. Gaz.* 4 Sept.

⁹⁹ It began in a very humble way in 1839, a few young men, chiefly of the working classes, starting it to provide a library, news room, and evening classes. In 1845 the institution was removed from

Queen Street to Clegg Street, near the Town Hall. Funds for the present building in Union Street were raised by an exhibition in 1854. The Butterworth Library was presented by James Platt, then president; Baines, *Lancs.* (ed. 1868), i, 462.

¹⁰⁰ Ibid. Among smaller institutions of a similar kind may be named the Glodwick Mutual Improvement Society's building, erected in 1857, Werneth Mechanics' Institute, opened 1867, and the Hollinwood Working Men's Club and Institute, built in 1868. The Horsedge Assembly Rooms, formerly the Working Man's Hall, date from 1844. A Botanical Society was formed about 1775; *Oldham Notes and Gleanings*, ii, 46.

The followers of Robert Owen built a Hall of Science, purchased by the Temperance Society in 1852, and thenceforward known as the Temperance Hall.

¹⁰¹ *Lond. Gaz.* 22 Dec. 1871.

¹⁰² For an account of the opening see Baines, *Lancs.* (ed. 1868), i, 461. A great boulder, found near Ashton Road, is placed in it.

¹⁰³ Opened in 1857.

¹⁰⁴ A tramway from Hollinwood to Waterhead was opened in 1880, and a

steam tramway from Oldham to Rochdale in 1885.

¹⁰⁵ The first theatre was opened in 1807; the new theatre in 1810.

¹⁰⁶ Bodies of volunteers were formed in 1798, and again in 1803, on fears of French invasions; E. Butterworth, op. cit. 144, 150.

¹⁰⁷ In J. Butterworth's *Oldham* (ed. 1817), 20–30, is quoted a local couplet: 'Old I am—Old is my name, The oldest church in Christendom.'

The popular belief was that it should be called St. Paul's; E. Butterworth's *Oldham* (ed. 1856), 70.

¹⁰⁸ 20 April 1558, injunction of the Bishop of Chester to the residents and inhabitants of Oldham to undertake (amongst other things) the reparation of the said chapel.

¹⁰⁹ Shaw, *Oldham Notes and Gleanings*, ii, 67, 131. A gallery was erected, chiefly for the singers, in 1703–4; Shaw, *Oldham*, 235. For other notices of the singers at that time see *ibid.* 225, 245.

¹¹⁰ In a return for the visitation of the Bishop of Chester in 1778 the rector of Prestwich mentions Oldham Chapel as a 'very old edifice.'

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associated with the Cudworth family of Werneth Hall, and contained a marble monument to John Cudworth (d. 1652), with a long Latin inscription in the form of question and answer.¹¹¹ The south chapel was associated with the Radcliffe, Ashton, and Horton families, and was probably erected by Edmund Ashton of Chadderton in the beginning of the reign of Henry VIII.¹¹²

The old church was pulled down in 1827, and the present structure erected between that date and 1830¹¹³ in the Gothic style of the period. It consists of a chancel 20 ft. wide by 14 ft. long, with small north and south vestries, nave of six bays 90 ft. by 26 ft., with north and south aisles each 17 ft. wide, and west tower 10 ft. square inside with walls 5 ft. thick. There are galleries on three sides, approached by wide stone staircases at the west end of the aisles north and south of the tower, and none of the fittings of the old building has been preserved. It has twice been restored, the last time being in 1897-9, when many improvements were effected in the interior, including the removal of the old square pews and the substitution of oak benches, and the placing of stalls in the first bay of the nave. The exterior is of stone, now gone black, and is of no architectural merit.¹¹⁴

In the vestry is an old oak chest with three locks, without date or inscription, but probably belonging to the end of the 16th or beginning of the 17th century.

An octagonal font, formerly belonging to the church, is now in the Oldham Museum.¹¹⁵

The churchyard, which is on the north, east, and south sides, sloping from west to east, is paved with flat gravestones,¹¹⁶ but is in a neglected condition.¹¹⁷

There is a ring of twelve bells,¹¹⁸ cast by Mears in 1830. They were rehung in 1897. In 1486 Ralph Langley gave three bells to Oldham Chapel,¹¹⁹ and in 1553 'four great bells' are recorded.¹²⁰ In 1722 the four bells were recast, and two new ones added,¹²¹

but on the erection of the new church it was provided with an entirely new ring.¹²²

The plate consists of a chalice of 1663, inscribed with the initials G. H. and A. H., and with the maker's mark H N over a bird; another 17th-century chalice; a flagon of 1770, inscribed with date and churchwardens' initials, and bearing the mark of Francis Crump; a flagon of 1788, inscribed with the date 1790 and initials of churchwardens, maker's mark T W; a paten of 1789-90, inscribed with the names of the minister (Rev. Thos. Fawcett) and churchwardens, 1790; two chalices of 1873, and two chalices and two patens of 1877.

The registers begin in 1558, and are contained in eighty-one volumes. The earlier ones have been transcribed by Mr. Giles Shaw.¹²³

The parochial chapel of St. Mary is *ADVOWSON* of unknown antiquity.¹²⁴ In 1406, on the complaint of the parishioners of Prestwich, the Archdeacon of Chester ordered the inhabitants of the chapelry of Oldham to contribute towards the blessed bread at Prestwich, as also bread, wine, and altar lights, the chapel at Oldham being 'notoriously dependent' upon the parish church.¹²⁵ Thomas Wild, curate of Oldham, is mentioned in a deed of 1411,¹²⁶ but though he and other curates probably retained their charge for life, their names do not occur in the Lichfield books. In 1447 the then Archdeacon of Chester addressed the chaplain celebrating in Oldham Chapel, enforcing his predecessor's decree as to the provision of blessed bread, &c., on pain of suspension; the chapelry then, as now, comprised the townships of Oldham, Crompton, Royton, and Chadderton.¹²⁷ It was found necessary to issue similar orders from time to time;¹²⁸ but in spite of the desire of the people of Oldham to make their chapel a parish church, the parish has never been divided, except for a few years under the Commonwealth,¹²⁹ and though many ecclesiastical parishes have been created from 1835 onwards, Prestwich still

¹¹¹ Given by James Butterworth, op. cit.

¹¹² *The Story of the ancient parochial chapelry of St. Mary's, Oldham*, by George Perry-Gore (vicar), 1906, from which much in the present account of Oldham Church is taken.

A complaint as to the Chadderton Chapel and the encroachment by a parclose in the time of Henry VIII may be seen in Raines, *Chantries* (Chet. Soc.), ii, 274.

¹¹³ A plan of the new church, published by H. G. James, and signed by the architect, R. Lane, is dated 28 Oct. 1829.

¹¹⁴ (Sir) Charles Barry submitted a design for a new church, some of the drawings for which are now in the possession of the vicar. Barry would have retained the old chancel and end chapels, which are shown in his drawings, but acquaintance with his Gothic churches of that period makes it doubtful whether his design, with its lofty clearstory, would now be considered any more successful than the one adopted.

¹¹⁵ There is a description of the font, and an account of its history subsequent to the year 1829, in *Trans. Lancs. and Ches. Antiq. Soc.* viii, 158-9.

¹¹⁶ The oldest stone is dated 1672.

¹¹⁷ An effort is being made by the vicar to have it dedicated as an open space under the control of the corporation.

¹¹⁸ Oldham is one of three churches in

Lancashire having 12 bells; the others being Ashton-under-Lyne and St. Nicholas', Liverpool.

¹¹⁹ The people seem to have subscribed £24 for the bells; they gave the money to the rector, who undertook to buy the bells and place them ready for ringing. Should the cost be greater he was to defray it, and if less, to return the surplus.

¹²⁰ The king seized three; his collector could not obtain possession, and for a time at least they remained safely in the church tower; *Ducatus Lanc.* (Rec. Com.), ii, 163.

Three bells were 'new cast' for the steeple in 1617 for £60 by William Oldfield of Nottingham; *Pal. of Lanc. Plea R.* 319, m. 16 d.

¹²¹ One of them is now in use at St. Peter's, and another at St. James', Oldham.

¹²² Perry-Gore, op. cit.

¹²³ The earlier volumes (to 1661), in which are many gaps, have been printed in *Oldham Notes and Gleanings*, where also may be seen extracts from the churchwardens' accounts, beginning 1734; the church ley, 1682, the constables' accounts, 1697; and the surveyors' accounts, 1765.

¹²⁴ Its existence seems implied in the record of the baptism of John de Cudworth in 1379.

¹²⁵ The decree, preserved at Prestwich, is printed by Booker, *Prestwich*, 252.

¹²⁶ Chadderton deed in Raines, *Langley Autobiog.* (Chet. Soc. Misc. vi), p. viii.

¹²⁷ Booker, op. cit. 254.

¹²⁸ In 1488 and 1558; *ibid.* 257. By the last decree Bishop Scott ordered the inhabitants of Oldham to contribute their share to the lights about the sacrament and the sepulchre yearly, and the candles on the Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday in Holy Week used in 'the service, as it is called, in tenebris'; also the wax candles at the Purification; they were also to contribute to the nave and belfry of the parish church, and the maintenance of the cemetery there.

Edmund Ashton of Chadderton in 1517 gave to trustees a messuage and close at Oldham—Pighill, near Horsedge Moor—out of which 4s. 4d. was to be paid yearly to the clerk of Prestwich in lieu of the 'holy bread silver' due from the people of Oldham; Raines D. (Chet. Lib.), bde. 4, no. 51.

¹²⁹ There does not appear to have been any statute passed to effect the separation, but in the documents of the time Oldham is uniformly treated as a separate parish and rectory; *Plund. Mins. Acts.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), i, 39; ii, 239.

A petition to Parliament in 1664 for the erection of Oldham into a parish, complaining of the 'mendicant preachers' supplied by the rectors of Prestwich in



OLDHAM CHURCH IN 1824
(From a Drawing on Stone by C. Calvert)



OLDHAM: WERNETH OLD HALL

includes Oldham, and the rector receives the commutation for the tithes of the chapelry. Even in official documents, however, Oldham has from time to time been styled a parish.

There was no endowment, and the chapel is therefore not mentioned in the *Valor Ecclesiasticus* of 1534.¹⁸⁰ The list of ornaments in 1552 shows that it was well supplied at that time, there being at least three altars.¹⁸¹ Under the Commonwealth, Edmund Ashton, farmer of the tithes, as the price of his peace with the Parliamentary authorities, agreed to give £140 to the chapels of Oldham and Shaw, of which £100 went to the former.¹⁸² On the lapse of this arrangement at the Restoration, the curate again became dependent on whatever stipend the rector of Prestwich might assign him.¹⁸³ In the 18th century grants were made by the governors of Queen Anne's Bounty, the lands therewith purchased yielding a rent of £22 in 1778.¹⁸⁴ At this time, in addition to the ancient Shaw chapel, three new churches had been built in the neighbourhood, at Oldham, Hollinwood, and Royton.

The chapel became the head of an ecclesiastical district in 1835.¹⁸⁵ The rector of Prestwich presents the incumbent, and the income is now £530 a year.

return for the tithes, is printed in Shaw, *Oldham*, 163.

In 1704 the rector, at the request of the inhabitants, agreed to the separation of Oldham, but the necessary Act of Parliament was not procured; Raines papers in Chet. Lib.

¹⁸⁰ There were no endowed chantries.

In 1458 the 'tithes, oblations, and emoluments belonging to the chapel of Oldham' were leased by the rector of Prestwich to Lawrence Ashton, priest, for 43 marks. The rector was to find a parish priest for the chapel; Raines D. (Chet. Lib.) 3/41.

¹⁸¹ *Ch. Gds.* 1552 (Chet. Soc.), 43.

¹⁸² *Plund. Mins. Accts.* i, 39; *Commonw. Ch. Surv.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), 22.

¹⁸³ Gastrell, *Notitia Cestr.* (Chet. Soc.), ii, 111, 112; 'the chapelry is very large,' he notices, and 'the congregation very numerous.' There was an endowment of 20s. per annum for the Haward Charity sermon. There were four churchwardens, one chosen by the rector, the others by the parish.

¹⁸⁴ Booker, *Prestwich*, 85. An account of the income in 1808 was given by Thomas Fawcett, then chaplain; he had £30 from the rector, about £40 from the lands, and about £20 from surplice fees; *Oldham Notes and Gleanings*, iii, 93.

¹⁸⁵ *Lond. Gaz.* 5 May 1835.

¹⁸⁶ Towneley MS. DD, no. 1500.

¹⁸⁷ *Langley Autobiog.* p. viii. He occurs again in 1529.

¹⁸⁸ He was a lessee of Edmund Ashton of Chadderton in 1540; Raines D. (Chet. Lib.), bdle. 4, no. 59.

As paid by the rector of Prestwich he appears in the *Clergy List* of 1541-2 (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), 12. He is named again in the Visitation Lists of 1548 and 1554.

¹⁸⁹ Probably the Roger Wrigley who was curate of Prestwich in 1541-2. He occurs at Oldham in the Visitation Lists of 1563, 1565, and 1567. He was still curate in 1575; H. Pennant's *Acct. Bk.*

¹⁹⁰ Shaw, *Oldham*, 32. In the list of curates, where no other reference is given, this book should be consulted under the date named.

The following have been the parochial chaplains and vicars:—

oc. 1379	John de Blackburne ¹⁹⁰
oc. 1411	Thomas Wild
oc. 1517	N. Cowper ¹⁹⁷
oc. 1540	Thomas Sherock ¹⁹⁸
oc. 1563	Roger Wrigley ¹⁹⁹
oc. 1585	Richard Bateson ¹⁴⁰
oc. 1589	Thomas Hunt ¹⁴¹
1619	Isaac Allen, M.A. ¹⁴² (Queen's and Oriental Colleges, Oxford)
oc. 1619	— Hall ¹⁴³
oc. 1641	William Langley ¹⁴⁴
1646	Humphrey Barnett ¹⁴⁵
1647	John Worthington, ¹⁴⁶ B.A. (St. Catharine's Hall, Cambridge)
1647	Robert Constantine ¹⁴⁷
1650	John Lake, B.A. (St. John's College, Cambridge) ¹⁴⁸
1654	Robert Constantine ¹⁴⁹
1662	— Loben ¹⁵⁰
oc. 1664	John Walworth ¹⁵¹
1669	Isaac Harpur, ¹⁵² B.A. (St. John's College, Cambridge)

¹⁴¹ A Lancashire Thomas Hunt graduated B.A. at Oxford (Brasenose College) in 1586; Foster, *Alumni*; but the Oldham curate is stated to have been appointed in 1580. He preached before the Earl of Derby in 1589. Next year he was summoned before the Bishop of Chester to give evidence of conformity, and Edmund Hopwood wrote to the archbishop desiring that there should be no interference with him as a 'discreet, peaceable, and honest man.' In 1604 he was again summoned before the bishop, as one of the ringleaders of nonconformity; in the next year is a note in the register of baptisms that three children were 'christened with the cross by Mr. Masson,' as if this were an exceptional ceremony. Shortly afterwards Thomas Hunt became master of the newly-founded grammar school, so that he had the confidence of the people. He retained his curacy, and at a visitation in 1608 it was stated that he did not wear the surplice, omitted the cross in baptism, and at a burial did not meet the corpse at the church stile. He died in 1611. Perhaps Thomas Jackson, master of the grammar school, also succeeded to the curacy; Shaw; see also *Hist. MSS. Com. Rep.* xiv, App. iv, 11, 16.

Thomas Hunt, preacher of the Word of God at Oldham, in 1609 received £12 10s. from James Ashton of Chadderton as a half year's rent for 'all the white tithes in the parish of Oldham;' Raines Papers, Chet. Lib.

¹⁴² Afterwards rector of Prestwich. In 1622 he was called 'lecturer,' while a Mr. Dickenson was 'curate at Chadderton;' *Misc.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), i, 67.

¹⁴³ Named in the Visitation List. He did not wear the surplice, and was suspected of incontinency.

¹⁴⁴ Shaw, op. cit. 88, 90; he resided at Chadderton. The Protestation was signed by 553 people.

¹⁴⁵ He was a member of the Manchester Classis in 1646; *Manch. Classis* (Chet. Soc.), i, 6.

¹⁴⁶ He was ordained and appointed in 1647; *ibid.* i, 35, 38; afterwards at Tockholes.

¹⁴⁷ He had officiated at Fairfield and Buxton in Derbyshire; was 'presented by the people at Oldham for allowance to be their minister' in Nov. 1647, and approved by the classis; *ibid.* i, 59, 64. He signed the 'Harmonious Consent' in 1648, but refused the Engagement, and was suspended; in 1654 he was restored, and continued at Oldham until 1662, when he was ejected for nonconformity. He then ministered privately during the twenty years' proscription, and was the founder of the Independent chapel at Greenacres. He died at Manchester in 1699; *ibid.* iii, 424, 425.

¹⁴⁸ Afterwards rector of Prestwich, and Bishop of Chichester. During his tenure of the curacy at Oldham he resisted the Classis as much as possible; *ibid.* iii, 375-95.

¹⁴⁹ Reinstated by an order of the Committee of Plundered Ministers 15 Oct. 1654; *Plund. Mins. Accts.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), ii, 54.

After the Restoration he was summoned to answer the Bishop of Chester's official on charges that he was 'not a lawful ordained minister,' and had refused to read the Book of Common Prayer, &c.; the churchwardens supported him, and had refused to 'set up the old font in the place where it anciently stood according to the ancient custom of the Church,' suffering it 'to lie indecently in the belfry in scorn and derision.' Alexander Potter of Foxdenton had endeavoured to procure the resumption of the Prayer-book services; Chet. Consistory Ct. Rec. 1661.

¹⁵⁰ Mentioned by Calamy as a conformist at Oldham.

¹⁵¹ The name is also spelt Walwork.

¹⁵² *Admissions to St. John's College*, i, 145; his tutor was Mr. Kenyon, afterwards rector of Prestwich. He was ordained in 1664 and 1665. The date of his appointment to the curacy is from Stratford's Visitation List, 1691; but from Harpur's list of preachers at Oldham, printed in *Pal. Note Bk.* iv, 54-6, it is clear that he was in charge from early in 1665, for on 5 Apr. of that year he states that 'Mr. John Walworke, my predecessor,' preached.

A HISTORY OF LANCASHIRE

- 1696 Richard Sugden, M.A. (Clare College, Cambridge)
- 1712 John Halliwell,¹⁵⁸ M.A. (Brasenose College, Oxford)
- 1730 James Sugden,¹⁵¹ B.A. (St. Catharine's Hall, Cambridge)
- 1732 Samuel Towson¹⁵⁵
- 1773 Thomas Fawcett¹⁵⁶
- 1818 John Fallowfield
- 1842 Thomas Lowe
- 1861 David Mitchell Alexander,¹⁵⁷ M.A. (Brasenose College, Oxford)
- 1864 William Walters,¹⁵⁹ M.A. (Christ Church, Oxford)
- 1873 William Francis Wilberforce,¹⁵⁹ M.A. (University College, Oxford)
- 1876 Alfred Julius James Cachemaille,¹⁶⁰ M.A. (Gonville and Caius College, Cambridge)
- 1892 George Perry-Gore¹⁶¹

In 1548 four priests at Oldham were summoned to the bishop's visitation; one of them, Lawrence Hall, was attached to the chapel at Shaw in Crompton. In 1563 onwards only one appeared.¹⁶² The curate at the end of the century (T. Hunt) was a strong Puritan, who refused to wear the surplice and to comply in other respects with the statutory requirements. His successor was in 1625 presented to the Bishop of Chester for not wearing the surplice; he said he would do so as soon as the churchwardens should provide one.¹⁶³ During the Commonwealth¹⁶⁴ the Presbyterian incumbent appears to have been popular; he was ejected in 1662. From this time there is little to record.¹⁶⁵ In 1778 the church was 'regularly served every Sunday and two sermons preached, and prayers read on Wednesdays and Fridays throughout the year; and the Sacrament of

the Lord's Supper administered the second Sunday in every month . . . and the younger part of the congregation catechised every Wednesday and Friday between Easter and Whitsuntide.'¹⁶⁶ The provision made in the two other Oldham churches was not so liberal.¹⁶⁷

The growth of the town in modern times has led to a great increase in the number of places of worship. In connexion with the Established Church the two buildings just named, St. Peter's in Chapel Street¹⁶⁸ and St. Margaret's, Hollinwood,¹⁶⁹ were erected in 1765-8 and 1766-9 respectively; the rector of Prestwich is patron. The former, after being enlarged, was rebuilt in 1901 and the latter in 1879. St. James's, Greenacres Moor, followed in 1829;¹⁷⁰ Christ Church, Glodwick, in 1844;¹⁷¹ St. John's, on the border of Chadderton, in the same year;¹⁷² Holy Trinity, Waterhead, in 1847;¹⁷³ Holy Trinity, Coldhurst,¹⁷⁴ was consecrated in the next year; St. Thomas's, Leesfield, consecrated also in 1848;¹⁷⁵ St. Thomas's, Werneth,¹⁷⁶ which has a mission-room called St. Michael's, was built in 1855: St. Thomas's, Moorside,¹⁷⁷ in 1872; St. Stephen and All Martyrs', Lower Moor, in 1873;¹⁷⁸ St. Andrew's, Werneth, in the same year;¹⁷⁹ St. Mark's, Glodwick,¹⁸⁰ in 1876; St. Paul's, Ashton Road, in 1880;¹⁸¹ and All Saints', Northmoor, in 1891. The patronage of these is in various hands; the Crown and the Bishop of Manchester present alternately to Coldhurst, Leesfield, Waterhead, Chadderton St. John, Werneth St. Thomas, and Glodwick Christ Church; the bishop alone to St. Paul's; the rector of Prestwich to St. James's; five trustees to Werneth St. Andrew, St. Stephen's, St. Mark's, and Northmoor; Thomas Melodew and John Lees to Moorside St. Thomas. Another church—St. Matthew's, Roundthorn—is a chapel-of-ease to St. Thomas's, Lees.

¹⁵⁸ Previously at Milnrow and Shaw. He was of the Halliwells of Pike House; Fishwick, *Rochdale*, 441. His will is given in Shaw, *Oldham*, 300. He was buried 21 July 1730 at Oldham.

¹⁵⁴ The church papers at Chest. Dioc. Reg. begin at this time.

¹⁵⁵ 'He was one of those clergymen who distinguished themselves in the last [18th] century by the diminished interest they manifested in the political affairs of their localities. Not deficient in intellectual acquirements, he was tolerant in his views and refined and pacific in his conduct. He exerted himself, in conjunction with the wealthy of the parish, in doing all the good he could to the deserving poor in an unobtrusive way. For want of practising the art of speaking "with the proper ornaments of voice and gesture," many of his hearers were attracted to dissenting congregations, "for no other reason in the world but because the sermons were spoken extempore;"' E. Butterworth's *Oldham* (ed. 1856), 78.

¹⁵⁶ He had been curate of St. Peter's, Oldham.

¹⁵⁷ Incumbent of Hanover Chapel, 1864 to 1870.

¹⁵⁸ Vicar of Pershore, 1873 to 1894; Archdeacon of Worcester, 1889; rector of Alvechurch, 1894.

¹⁵⁹ Previously vicar of Royston, Yorks. 1862 to 1873; afterwards vicar of St. John, Micklegate, York, 1876 to 1882;

of Fulford, York, 1882 to 1889; and of Brodsworth, 1889.

¹⁶⁰ Rector of Cheriton, Hants, 1892 to 1894; vicar of All Saints', Forest Gate, 1894.

¹⁶¹ Previously vicar of St. Matthias', Sneinton, 1890 to 1892.

¹⁶² Visitation Lists at Chester.

¹⁶³ Ibid.

¹⁶⁴ A 'monthly exercise' was arranged for Oldham in 1653, an arrangement modified two years later; Shaw, op. cit. 145, 148.

¹⁶⁵ Presentments for ecclesiastical offences made in 1684 are printed *ibid.* 191. Two men were charged 'for sitting in the church, with their hats on, in sermon time.'

¹⁶⁶ Booker, *Prestwich*, 85.

¹⁶⁷ At St. Peter's, where the curate's salary was wholly derived from seat-rents, there were two Sunday services with sermon, and the Lord's Supper was administered once a quarter. At St. Margaret's, which had received a grant from Queen Anne's Bounty, only the Sunday services are mentioned; *ibid.* 85, 86.

¹⁶⁸ Consecrated 2 June 1768, see *Oldham Notes and Gleanings*, i, 85. It became head of a district chapelry in 1835; *Lond. Gaz.* 5 May.

It was erected by voluntary contributions, and enlarged in 1804. About 1817 the congregation subscribed for a Thursday evening sermon in the summer months; Butterworth, *Oldham*, 38.

¹⁶⁹ Consecrated 8 July 1769. It became a district chapel at the same time as the last.

¹⁷⁰ Consecrated 19 Sept. 1829. There is a full account of the church in *Oldham Notes and Gleanings*, ii, 97, &c.; the Million Fund of 1818 made grants towards the building. It also became a district chapel in 1835. A chancel has been added.

¹⁷¹ Consecrated 20 Nov. 1844; for the district see *Lond. Gaz.* 22 Oct. 1844.

¹⁷² Consecrated 27 Nov. 1845. A district was assigned to it at the same time as to the last.

¹⁷³ Consecrated 5 July 1847. Services had been begun in 1845 in two rooms in the Grove, off Sidebottom Street; see the full history of the church in *Oldham Notes and Gleanings*, i, 195, 210, &c. A district was assigned in 1844; *Lond. Gaz.* 3 Dec.

¹⁷⁴ Consecrated 12 Feb. 1848. The district was formed in 1844; *Lond. Gaz.* 22 Oct.

¹⁷⁵ For district, *ibid.* 14 July 1846.

¹⁷⁶ Consecrated 21 Nov. 1855. The district had been assigned at the same time as Coldhurst.

¹⁷⁷ Consecrated 20 Apr. 1872. For district see *Lond. Gaz.* 29 Nov. 1870.

¹⁷⁸ Consecrated 9 May 1873. For district see *Lond. Gaz.* 8 Aug. 1873.

¹⁷⁹ Consecrated 14 May 1873. For district see *Lond. Gaz.* 16 Dec. 1873.

¹⁸⁰ Consecrated 14 June 1876. For district see *Lond. Gaz.* 30 May 1876.

¹⁸¹ Consecrated 26 May 1880. For district see *Lond. Gaz.* 3 Aug. 1880.

The Free Church of England has a place of worship in Hollinwood.

The Wesleyan Methodists' first chapel was built in 1775; the church in Manchester Street was opened by John Wesley in 1790, and enlarged in 1850.¹⁸² There are also chapels at Greenacres Road (Wesley), Glodwick, Watersheddings, Moorside, and Northmoor. There are two circuits.

The Primitive Methodists have four circuits in the Oldham district, with nine chapels in the township. The Methodist New Connexion has six chapels; the Methodist Free Church four, and the Independent Methodists five.¹⁸³

The Baptists have four churches, and the Particular Baptists four.¹⁸⁴

Robert Constantine, on being ejected from the curacy of Oldham in 1662, continued to minister in the village and neighbourhood. Before 1695 he was living in a house at Greenacres, which also did duty as a place of worship; he removed to Manchester, and for a time nothing is known of his congregation, but a barn converted into a chapel was used from 1699 till 1784-5, when the Independents erected the chapel which served till 1854, the date of the present building.¹⁸⁵ Union Street represents an effort made in 1807; the first chapel was opened in 1823, and after a fluctuating history the congregation built the present one in 1835. Hope Chapel was built by Samuel Lees, of the Soho Iron Works, in 1823; it was replaced by the present one in 1866. Providence Chapel is the result of a secession from Hope in 1829. Townfield Chapel began as an undenominational meeting-place in 1850, then it was Methodist, and from 1874 Congrega-

tional. A secession from it in 1883 led to the erection of Derker School-chapel in 1886. The history of Werneth Chapel begins in 1868, but the school-chapel was not built till 1874. A cottage meeting in 1878 led to the school-chapel in Ashton Road in 1880. At Hollinwood, then 'a much neglected village,' work began in 1850, but the chapel was not built till 1866. At Waterhead services commenced in cottages in 1837; other buildings succeeded, and a chapel was built in 1870. The chapel at Pastures was built in 1856.¹⁸⁶

The Presbyterian Church of England was founded in 1883, the building being opened four years later.¹⁸⁷ Salem Moravian Church, Clarksfield, was built in 1824, becoming an independent congregation in 1836; on the other side of the town Westwood Church was opened in 1869, after some years' preparatory work.¹⁸⁸ There are Catholic Apostolic (or Irvingite), Welsh Calvinistic, Salvation Army, and Church of Christ chapels, and some mission rooms. The Society of Friends has long had a meeting-house here.¹⁸⁹ The Unitarians have a chapel.¹⁹⁰ The Latter Day Saints (Mormons) also have services.¹⁹¹

There are four Roman Catholic churches: St. Mary's, built in 1838;¹⁹² Our Lady of Mount Carmel and St. Patrick's, 1862-70; St. Anne's, Greenacres, 1880-1903; and Corpus Christi, Hollinwood, 1878.

The Grammar School was founded in 1606; the building was erected in 1611.

The report of 1826 is the latest *CHARITIES* official record.¹⁹³ The principal endowments at that time were educational,¹⁹⁴ but some were for the poor of Oldham,¹⁹⁵

¹⁸² Butterworth, *Oldham* (1817), 40; an extract is given from the *Life* of John Murlin, a preacher; the Methodists came to Oldham, 'a place famous through all that country for daring and desperate wickedness,' and experienced 'heavy persecution for a season.'

¹⁸³ The Independent Methodists had a chapel in 1817 at a place formerly called Jackson's Pit; Butterworth, *op. cit.* 45. In 1824 the chapels were—Independent Methodists in George Street, and Primitive Methodists in Grosvenor Street.

¹⁸⁴ The first Baptist Chapel, at the top of Manchester Street, was purchased in 1816 from the Methodist New Connexion, who built it in 1805; the opening services included the baptism of fourteen persons in the reservoir at Hollinwood; Butterworth, *op. cit.* 43.

The chapels in Chamber Road, at Glodwick and at Hollinwood (Beulah), date from 1863, 1876, and 1891, respectively; *Bapt. Year Bk.* In 1856 the Particular Baptists had three chapels, two in Hollinwood, and one in Horsedge Street.

¹⁸⁵ A *History* of the chapel, by its minister, the Rev. George Gaunt Waddington, was published in 1854; it gives views of the houses and chapels successively used, and an account of the various ministers. One or two of them had adopted the Unitarian doctrine prevalent among the Non-conformists in the latter part of the 18th century, but stayed only a short time, and Calvinism was the rule; see the account in Nightingale's *Lancs. Nonconf.* v, 230-45.

The chapel at Greenacres was one of those wrecked by the 'Church and King' mob from Manchester in 1715; see works above quoted; and for the names and fines of some of the delinquents (1716), Raines Papers in Chet. Lib.

¹⁸⁶ Nightingale, *op. cit.* v, 245-64, 268-74.

¹⁸⁷ *Official Handbook* of the Presb. Ch. of Engl.

¹⁸⁸ The United Brethren began preaching at Greenacres in 1772, and continued at Lees. Salem Chapel was built at the expense of John Lees of Fairfield, James Lees of Clarksfield, and Joseph Lees of Plymouth Grove, the owner of the estate undertaking to discharge all taxes, &c.; from *Short Sketches of Moravian Work* (1888), 26-31.

¹⁸⁹ Heyside in Royton had been the meeting-place since 1665. In 1784 a meeting-house was opened in Oldham; in 1802 the present site was acquired, and the house was built in 1869.

¹⁹⁰ 'A small but comparatively handsome structure' in Lord Street, erected in 1816; Butterworth, *op. cit.* 44.

¹⁹¹ These existed in 1856. In that year there was also a New Jerusalem or Swedenborgian Church in Lees Road.

¹⁹² It was attacked by an anti-Catholic mob in 1861, when much damage was done; Kelly, *Engl. Cath. Miss.* 304.

¹⁹³ *Char. Com. Rep.* xvi, 1826, pp. 222-34. Oldham is called a parish, and treated separately from Prestwich.

¹⁹⁴ Oldham Grammar School, 1606; Hollinwood School, 1786, to which also John Walker's Charity of 1755 was applied; and the Bluecoat School, founded by Thomas Henshaw in 1807. Samuel Scholes in 1747 gave rent-charges of £12 on lands in Glodwick, and £4 on messuages in Oldham for the education of poor children; and in 1826 there were thirty-nine being taught out of the proceeds at different schools.

¹⁹⁵ The Great Meadow, near Fogg Lane, was in 1640 granted by Edmund Tetlow

the elder, and Edmund Tetlow the younger, charged with rents of 28s. 8d. and 3s. 4d. for the poor of Oldham and Royton respectively. Though these sums are named it seems to have been the practice from the first to give the whole rent of the field to the poor, and this was established by the later trusts. In 1804, on the division of the common lands, a small allotment was made in respect of the Poor's Field. In 1826 the gross rents were £20 2s., distributed with the following.

John Tetlow in 1704 left land in Honeywell Lane, near Broadway Lane in Oldham, for the benefit of the poor; one boy was to be apprenticed each year. An allotment on North Moor was added in 1804; and the gross rents in 1826 amounted to £33 a year. This and the preceding charity money were distributed in blankets, linen, and calico. No apprenticeships had been made for many years.

Samuel Haward in 1704 gave rent-charges on his lands in Salford, Thorpe in Royton, Hollinwood in Oldham, Fails-worth, and Gorton for the poor of Salford and Oldham, 'who should constantly on the Lord's Day go to church or some legal assembly for divine worship, and there reverently behave themselves, morning and evening.' The three rent-charges of £25 in all were duly paid in 1826, and the money distributed according to the founder's intent, in Bibles, Catechisms, and clothing; the minister had 20s. for a sermon on the first Wednesday after Michaelmas Day.

Timothy Eyre of Hollinwood in 1728 left £100 for the poor. In 1826 the capital was in the hands of the incumbent of Oldham, who distributed £4 10s. as interest in linen cloth.

A HISTORY OF LANCASHIRE

Crompton,¹⁹⁶ and Royton.¹⁹⁷ Chadderton had no special fund.

CROMPTON

Crompton, 1278; Crompton, 1292.¹

The township of Crompton has an extreme length of about 3 miles from east to west, with a breadth of a mile and a half. The River Beal runs northward through a central valley; to the east the ground, broken by one or two cloughs, rises continually till 1,300 ft. is attained on Crompton Moor on the border of Yorkshire; while on the west the highest points near High Crompton and Whitfield, which are separated by a valley, rise to 700 and 825 ft; from them the surface slopes away in all directions, but most rapidly to the north. The Irk rises on the boundary between Crompton and Royton. The area is 2,864½ acres;² the population in 1901 was 13,427.

Two roads from Oldham meet near the southern boundary at Shaw Side and Cowlshaw, and go north along the Beal Valley, passing through the small town of Shaw and Woodend. From Shaw the road to Rochdale goes west to High Crompton, thence descending north-west by Burnedge to Rochdale; to the east a winding road goes through Clough into Yorkshire. Crompton Fold lies above Woodend to the east; and Whitfield Hall above the same hamlet to the north-west. The Lancashire and Yorkshire Company's Oldham and Rochdale branch railway line runs northward along the valley, crossing and re-crossing the road, and has a station at Shaw, called Shaw and Crompton. Electric tramways connect the place with Oldham. To the south-east of Shaw is Birshaw, anciently a separate manor.

The soil is clay, with veins of sand; the land is mostly in pasture. There are numerous cotton mills, and some collieries,³ with quarries, and some minor industries.

A local board was formed in 1863,⁴ and was in 1894 replaced by an urban district council of twelve members, chosen by four wards—North, East, South and West. The town hall, situated in Shaw High Street, was built in 1894. There are public baths. Gas and water are supplied to Shaw by the Corporation of Oldham. There is a cemetery between Shaw and High Crompton, formed in 1891.

Wakes at Shaw were held on the first Saturday after Old Lammass Day.

In 1666 no house had as many as six hearths liable to the tax, the largest being James Buckley's, with five. The total number of hearths was seventy-nine.⁵

Philip Gilbert Hamerton, painter, art critic, and essayist,⁶ was born at Shaw in 1834; he died at Boulogne-sur-Seine in 1894.

Like Oldham, from which probably it *MANORS* was only gradually separated, *CROMPTON* formed part of the thegnage estate of Kaskenmoor held of the king by Roger de Montbegon and William de Nevill in 1212, and under them by a number of tenants. Gilbert de Notton, lord of Barton, held 4 oxgangs of land of Roger and 4 of William, the annual services being 3s. and 3s. 4d. respectively; while Henry de Scholefield held 1 oxgang by a rent of 10d.⁷

No proper account can be given of the descent of these manors or portions of manors. From the inquiries of the 15th and 16th centuries it appears that the Trafford family held *WHITFIELD* in Crompton of the king as Duke of Lancaster, as of his manor of Salford, by fealty and the rent of 3s. 4d.⁸ Whitfield

¹⁹⁶ James Wyld in 1672 left a rent-charge of £5 on his house and land for the poor of Crompton. In 1826 this was distributed by the churchwarden and overseer in gifts of linen cloth.

¹⁹⁷ Royton in 1826 received 37s. 3d. a year from the rents of the Poor's field in Oldham. It was distributed every two years by the overseer; linen cloth, blankets, and flannel being given.

¹ On the place-names in Crompton see *Oldham Notes and Gleanings*, i, 156.

² 2,865, including 12 of inland water, according to the census of 1901.

³ In the Chetham rental of 1524 (Clowes D.) 16d. appears as paid by Richard Wild 'for getting coals in Lennardine.'

⁴ *Lond. Gaz.* 23 Oct. 1863.

⁵ Subs. R. bdle. 250, no. 9, Lancs.

⁶ *Dict. Nat. Biog.*

⁷ *Inq. and Extents* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), i, 63, 64. It appears that Gilbert de Notton's share descended to his son Roger, and after the latter's death in 1241 to Gilbert de Barton, son of William son of the former Gilbert; *ibid.* 61.

In 1246 Gilbert de Barton, Brun de Crompton, and Jordan his brother, Simon de Lee and Hugh his son, and Adam son of Ellis complained that the Abbot of Roche and others had disseised them of a certain mine in Crompton. The jury found that the defendants had dug in the mine and had excluded the plaintiffs from their right to enter it. It was probably a quarry on the border of Yorkshire, to which county the defendants belonged; *Assize R.* 404, m. 1.

Gilbert de Barton probably sold the

manor to Geoffrey de Chetham, which would explain the descent of one moiety (Whitfield) in the Traffords of Stretford, and of the other moiety in the Chaddertons. It is possible, however, that Whitfield was a distinct grant to the Traffords, made after 1212, and that the Chadderton and Chetham moieties of High Crompton and Beal Moor represent Gilbert de Notton's estate. Geoffrey de Chadderton of Chadderton in 1278 laid claim to a moiety of the manor of Crompton, and had it settled on him; *Final Conc.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), i, 154. This moiety again was alienated, and the inheritance of the Chaddertons of Lees and the Chethams appears to represent it.

At one time the Pilkingtons, also heirs of Geoffrey de Chetham, had a share in the manor—called one-seventh in 1319 (*Final Conc.* ii, 35)—and the grant of free warren made to Roger de Pilkington in 1291, included his estate in Crompton; *Chart. R.* 19 Edw. I, pt. i, m. 41. The later Pilkington inquiries do not mention Crompton; the estate was, in part at least, alienated to the Chaddertons.

This descent is put forward only as a conjecture. The rents subsequently paid by the tenants of Crompton show an increase on that paid by Gilbert de Notton, unless Whitfield was an independent estate.

The rents payable to the Crown in 1324 in right of the Earl of Lancaster were thus stated: Henry de Trafford for 2 oxgangs in Whitfield, 3s. 4d.; John de Chetham, 1 oxgang in Crompton, 3s. 2d.; Roger de Chadderton, the moiety of Beal Moor, 3s. 2d.; William son of

Peter, a certain assart in Crompton, 2s. (?) ; Adam de Tetlow, 1 oxgang in Birshaw, 10d.; Duchy of Lanc. Rentals and Surv. 379, m. 13. About 1565 they were—For Whitfield farm, 3s. 4d.; Low Crompton farm, 2s. 1d.; Edmund Chadderton for High Crompton, 3s. 4d.; James Ashton for Birshaw, 11d.; Baines, *Lancs.* (ed. 1868), i, 447. The rent of 3s. payable by Chetham of Nuthurst is omitted.

⁸ From a suit in 1292 it appears that Henry son of Henry de Trafford demised to John de Halliwell a moiety of all his tenements in Whitfield for sixteen years at 14s. 6d. rent; and the other moiety to Robert de Halliwell for ten years at the same rent. Afterwards Henry granted the whole to Richard his brother for life, which led to the ejection of John and Robert. It was ordered that the grant to Richard should stand good, and that the plaintiffs should do fealty to him; *Assize R.* 408, m. 39, 93.

In 1324 Henry de Trafford held 2 oxgangs in Whitfield by a service of 3s. 4d. for all; see last note. This statement is varied in 1346 by the substitution of 'four plough-lands' for 'two oxgangs'; a double rent was payable as relief; *Add. MS.* 32103, fol. 146.

Margery, the widow of Sir Ralph Radcliffe, died in 1417 holding four plough-lands in Whitfield as her dower, by assignment of Henry son of Henry Trafford, who held of the king as Duke of Lancaster in socage by a service of 3s. 4d.; the clear value was 20s.; *Lancs. Inq. p.m.* (Chet. Soc.), i, 127.

In 1556–7 Sir Edmund Trafford granted

Hall was in 1787 in the possession of John Milne and brothers.^{8a} The Chaddertons of Lees in Oldham held High Crompton of the king as duke by knight's service and the rent of 3s. 2d.⁹ The Chethams of Nuthurst also had an estate in Crompton of similar

tenure, the rent being 3s.¹⁰ The Langleys of Agecroft also had an estate, including Birchhaw or *BIRSHAW*, in Crompton and Oldham,¹¹ of which the tenure is variously stated, though it is identified with the unnamed estate of Henry de Scholefield^{11a} in 1212.

to John Chetham, of Nuthurst, all his part of Beal water in Crompton, with lease to make a dam, for 12d. rent; John was making a water-mill; Clowes D. Edmund Trafford, who died at the end of 1563, held messuages, &c., in Whitfield in socage, as of the queen's manor of Salford, by a rent of 3s. 4d.; Duchy of Lanc. Inq. p.m. xi, 11. In the following year John Chetham purchased four messuages, &c., in Whitfield from Edmund Trafford and Elizabeth his wife; Pal. of Lanc. Feet of F. bde. 26, m. 87. This seems to mark the end of the Trafford tenure in Crompton.

Edward Milnes of Whitfield was a freeholder in 1600; *Misc. (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.)*, i, 250.

^{8a} Land Tax Returns.

⁹ In 1301 and 1302 there was a dispute between Richard de Trafford, rector of Cheadle, and Geoffrey de Chadderton (and others), respecting lands in Crompton; Assize R. 1321, m. 9; 418, m. 12 d.

Crompton seems to have been given to younger branches of the Chadderton family, and other lands were acquired by them. In 1307 Roger de Pilkington granted all his lands in Crompton to Adam son of Geoffrey de Chadderton, together with the homage of Adam son of John de Birshaw and his service of 2s. a year, reserving the homage of John de Furness and a piece of land bounded partly by the Wrobrooks and the Wallsyke. This grant was by way of exchange for lands in Cheetham held by Adam, who is called also Adam de Crompton. The mill is mentioned; Clowes D. no. 96, 97. Alice, the widow of Alexander de Pilkington, confirmed the grant made by her son Roger, of lands in Crompton by the Beal; *ibid.* Cecily widow of Adam de Chadderton, in 1324 released her lands on the west side of the Beal, and Richard de Oldham granted them to John her son; *ibid.* The moiety of Beal Moor was then held by Roger de Chadderton at 3s. 2d. rent; see preceding note.

The receiver for the forfeited Holland estates about the same time rendered account of 26s. 8d. as the issues of two-thirds of a messuage and plough-land, the lands of Roger, son and heir of John de Chadderton, who was in ward; L.T.R. Enr. Accts. *Misc.* no. 14, m. 76 d.

In 1346 John de Chetham held 1 oxgang and Agnes, Joan, Alice, and Cecily, the daughters and heirs of Roger de Chadderton, held the twentieth part of a knight's fee in Crompton and Beal Moor, paying together a rent of 6s. 8d.; Add. MS. 32103, fol. 146.

The descent is again uncertain, but the two families do not appear to have remained on friendly terms. One Thomas de Chadderton granted lands in High Crompton to his son Alexander, with remainder to a younger son Thomas. The elder son died without issue, and the younger had to fly for felony, being concerned in the death of Thomas de Chetham; he died in July 1393, and his son and heir Thomas was then about sixteen years of age. The lands were held of the Duke of Lancaster by knight's service and a rent of 3s. 2d.; *Lancs. Inq. p.m. (Chet. Soc.)*, i, 54. The custody of the lands escheated was granted by the duke to John de Radcliffe of Foxdenton in 1392, and then to

Richard de Chadderton, in whose hands they remained till 1414, at a total rent of 30s.; *ibid.* See also *Dep. Keeper's Rep.* xl, App. 527, 532.

Probably the lands were restored to the heir; for Oliver, son of Thomas de Chadderton, was in possession in 1428; Clowes D. no. 105. In 1445 John Chetham and Roger son of Oliver Chadderton were holding the twentieth part of a knight's fee in Crompton and Beal Moor, paying 5s. rent; John was charged with 2s. 6d., but pleaded that he was in ward, and Roger, charged with the other half, said that he held as feoffee; Duchy of Lanc. Knights' Fees, 2/20. The feoffees of Thomas son of Roger Chadderton were in possession in 1463; Clowes D.

George Chadderton of Lees in Oldham had in 1515 four messuages, &c., in Crompton, held of the king (as duke) by the thirty-second part of a knight's fee and a rent of 3s. 2d. yearly, which he settled on his wife Katherine. On her death in 1543 the tenement went to their grandson Thomas, then of full age; Duchy of Lanc. Inq. p.m. vii, 31. A similar return was made after the death of this Thomas Chadderton in 1572; *ibid.* xiii, no. 7. George the son and heir died in 1606, and the tenement in Crompton was then found to be held by the twentieth part of a knight's fee and 3s. 8d. rent; the clear annual value was £5; *Lancs. Inq. p.m. (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.)*, i, 64. The estate was sold by Thomas Chadderton to John Plumpton of Warrington; *Exch. Dep. (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.)*, 59. In the time of Charles I a decree between Chadderton and Walker had been made touching lands in Crompton, Whitfield, and Oldham; *Lancs. and Ches. Rec. (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.)*, ii, 248.

¹⁰ From the last note it will be seen that the Chethams at first held jointly with the Chaddertons. The increase of rent may have been due to the grant of Beal Moor.

In 1334 John de Chetham held half of Beal Moor and an oxgang in Crompton, which had belonged to William de Weston; *Lancs. Inq. and Extents*, ii, 104-5. John de Chetham in 1342 granted to his son Adam, with remainders to other sons, all his lands on the east side of the Beal, together with the fourth part of the mill of Crompton, &c., at the same time granting to his son Robert, with like remainders, all his lands on the west side of Beal, the fourth part of the mill, lands in Royton and Ashworth, and a burgage in Manchester; regrants followed; Clowes D. no. 98-101. As already stated John de Chetham was tenant when the extent of 1346 was made.

Later Chetham deeds mention the lands in Crompton in feoffments for different purposes. Thomas de Chetham, who died (or was killed) in September 1383, held a messuage in High Crompton of the Duke of Lancaster by knight's service and a rent of 3s.; its clear value was 23s.; Towneley MS. DD, no. 1463. In 1428 an exchange of lands in High Crompton was made between John Chetham and Oliver Chadderton; the bounds mention Crosshillgate, Bolastree rand, the 'great within' growing in John's garden, Hallhillgate, Bealmoorhey, Kenyon croft, lands of Sir Edmund Trafford, Robert Langley, Thomas Wild,

and Robert Taylor, the two Gosnorhills, Hathershaw Moor, Crawlache, Smallbrook, Ringyard; also in Mosshey; Clowes D. no. 105-7. Lands including Gosard hills, Small brook meadow, and the Mill croft, were in 1472 leased to Thomas Chetham by Katherine the widow, and Thomas, the son and heir of Roger Chadderton; *ibid.* no. 127. In the same collection are rentals of the Chetham estates, including Crompton, beginning in 1520.

The tenure by knight's service and a rent of 3s. is again recorded in the inquisitions made after the death of Thomas Chetham and John Chetham, in 1504 and 1515; Duchy of Lanc. Inq. p.m. iii, 62; iv, no. 6. In 1614 the estate consisted of twelve messuages, half a water-mill, 120 acres of land, &c., held by the fourth part of a knight's fee and the ancient rent of 3s.; *Lancs. Inq. p.m. (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.)*, ii, 16-18.

The will of Ralph Chetham of Crompton, dated 1537, is printed in *Chet. Gen. (Chet. Soc.)*, 16.

¹¹ In 1324 Adam de Tetlow held an oxgang in Birshaw which Richard de Birshaw had formerly held; the service was 10d. a year; *Lancs. Inq. and Extents*, ii, 104-5. In 1346 Robert de Tetlow held Birshaw in socage at a rent of 10d.; Add. MS. 32103, fol. 146.

From the Tetlows it descended to the Langleys. Roger de Langley, who died in 1393, held by inheritance a parcel of land 'in Oldham' called Birshaw, the rent being 10d. as before; *Lancs. Inq. p.m. (Chet. Soc.)*, i, 51. In 1445 Margaret wife of Roger Langley held it at 10d. rent; Duchy of Lanc. Knights' fees, bde. 2, no. 20.

In the inquisition after the death of Thomas Langley six messuages and tenements in Crompton and Oldham were stated to be held of the king (as duke) in socage, by the rent of 1d. for all services; Agecroft D. 80. The 16th-century inquisitions join together messuages &c., in Crompton, Oldham, Middleton, and Broughton—or Crompton and Oldham alone—as held in socage by a rent of 2s. 11d.; Duchy of Lanc. Inq. p.m. vi, 7; xi, 16.

On the division of Sir Robert Langley's estates, the Crompton and Oldham lands fell to his daughter Dorothy, wife of James Ashton, of Chadderton; Pal. of Lanc. Feet of F. bde. 24, m. 3; Duchy of Lanc. Inq. p.m. xvi, 22; *Lancs. Inq. p.m. (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.)*, i, 225. Sir Watts Horton had a small estate in Crompton in 1787.

A dispute about Towe carr and Birshaw meadow in Crompton occurred in 1564; *Ducatus Lanc. (Rec. Com.)*, ii, 284.

^{11a} The surname long continued in the township. Thus in 1426 the escheator was ordered to give Hugh, next of kin and heir of Henry Scholefield—i.e. son of John brother of Henry—livery of four messuages, 80 acres of land, &c., in Crompton, and two messuages, &c., in Oldham, which had been taken into the king's hands in consequence of the felony of Thomas de Chadderton, who had formerly owned them; *Dep. Keeper's Rep.* xxxiii, App. 27; *Lancs. Inq. p.m. (Chet. Soc.)*, i, 56.

A HISTORY OF LANCASHIRE

The Hospitallers¹² and the Abbeys of Whalley¹³ and Cockersand¹⁴ had small estates in the township, at Whitfield, Gartside, and Crompton Park respectively. The Byron estate in Crompton seems to have been

regarded as part of Royton.¹⁵ There was thus no resident lord of the manor, and little is known of the other holders of land, but the names of Buckley,¹⁶ Crompton,¹⁷ Prestwich,¹⁸ Scholefield,¹⁹ and Wild²⁰

¹² The Prior of the Hospitallers in 1243 called upon Gilbert de Barton to warrant to him 80 acres of land in Crompton, and the same in Barton, held by charter; Curia Regis R. 130, m. 25 d. Crompton is named among the places in which the order had lands in 1292; *Plac. de Quo War.* (Rec. Com.), 375. Forty years later the prior claimed due service from John de Trafford for a messuage and 20 acres in Crompton; De Banco R. 292, m. 354 d.

The Hospitallers' land, which was at Whitfield, was in 1639 tenanted by James Buckley, as may be seen in the inquisition quoted later; see also *Lancs. and Ches. Antiq. Soc.* viii, 156, 157.

¹³ Charles, Abbot of Stanlaw, granted to Adam de Windhill in Blackburnshire the land in Crompton called Gartside, lying on the west of Aspiwalllesyke, near the Hospitallers' land, which they had had from Gilbert de Barton at a rent of 12d. Adam seems to have sold his right to Geoffrey de Chetham, who regranted it to him. Then Adam released his right to the Abbot of Stanlaw for 14 marks of silver, and Clarice his widow afterwards released her claim; *Whalley Coucher* (Chet. Soc.), i, 163-5.

This land was probably among the other Whalley lands granted to Holt of Gristlehurst; in 1580 Thomas Holt and Constance his wife sold a messuage in Crompton to Francis Entwisle, Alice his wife, and John his son; Pal. of Lanc. Feet of F. bde. 42, m. 43.

¹⁴ Gilbert de Notton granted part of his land in Crompton to the canons of Cockersand, the bounds being the Bathe (or Bache) brook, the Beal, Hullilache, and the Black lache. Roger de Notton (his son and successor) granted a land in Gholmerscliff called Hesseselac, to wit, from Lovenath-denebrook to Henecesclough; together with the Cliff on which stood the buildings of Geoffrey de Manchester; *Cockersand Chartul.* (Chet. Soc.), ii, 726-9. It appears from the margin that Geoffrey son of Luke de Manchester held both pieces of land in 1268, by inheritance, rendering for the former 2s. a year and $\frac{1}{2}$ mark at death, and for the latter 6d.

In 1246 Simon son of Thomas de Chaydock did not prosecute a claim for warranty made against Geoffrey son of Luke de Crompton; Assize R. 404, m. 13 d. It appears that John son of Thomas de Chaydock had a grant from William son of Adam de Crompton of half his lands in the township; Clowes D. no. 94.

In 1259 Geoffrey son of Luke de Manchester leased for ten years to Sir Geoffrey de Chetham all the land he held of the Abbot of Cockersand in Crompton at a rent of 2s. 6d.; *ibid.* no. 95.

Part of this land afterwards came to the Chethams. Thomas de Chetham in 1383 held lands called Crompton Park of the abbot in socage by the rent of $\frac{1}{2}$ d.; worth 21s. clear; Towneley MS. DD, no. 1463. Crompton Park is mentioned in 1461; Clowes D. no. 123. It was leased in 1475 to Edmund Brekeley for the life of James Chetham; *ibid.* no. 128; but is not named in the later inquisitions of the family.

¹⁵ It is not separately mentioned in the inquisitions.

In 1551 the tenants of Crompton had a dispute with Sir John Byron regarding common of pasture; *Ducatus Lanc.* (Rec. Com.), i, 250. Sir John Byron in 1561 purchased lands in Castleton and Crompton from Robert and James Stott; Pal. of Lanc. Feet of F. bde. 23, m. 6.

¹⁶ The Buckleys occur from the beginning of the 15th century, when James Chetham married Eleanor daughter of Ellis Buckley; Clowes D. no. 102.

An estate in 1346 held by William the Parson (*alias* Pereston) by a rent of 12d. and 13d. for castle ward, was a century later held by James Buckley, by the same services; Add. MS. 32103, fol. 146; Duchy of Lanc. Knights' Fees, bde. 2, no. 20.

In 1463 the feoffees of Thomas Chadderton granted lands in Crompton to Bernard Buckley; Clowes D. The wife of Robert Buckley of Whitfield contributed to the subsidy of 1526 for 'goods'; Shaw, *Oldham*, 16. Lawrence Buckley in 1564 purchased from Edmund Trafford and Elizabeth his wife two messuages, two dove-cotes, &c., in Crompton and Butterworth; Pal. of Lanc. Feet of F. bde. 26, m. 43. John Chetham in 1565-6 sold land in Whitfield to William Buckley; Clowes D. In 1590 a settlement was made of three messuages, &c., in Crompton and other places, by James Buckley and Elizabeth his wife; Pal. of Lanc. Feet of F. bde. 52, m. 83.

James Buckley died in 1608, holding nine messuages and lands in Whitfield of the king as of the dissolved priory of St. John of Jerusalem in socage by 3d. rent; his son and heir George was over thirty years of age; *Lancs. Inq. p.m.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), i, 145. James Buckley, who died in 1627, had the same or a similar holding in Whitfield and land in Butterworth held by a ginger root; James, his son and heir, was five years of age; Duchy of Lanc. Inq. p.m. xxvii, 51.

Another James Buckley died in September 1638 holding a messuage and lands in Whitfield as above, and a cottage, &c., also of the king, by the 200th part of a knight's fee. James, the son and heir, was seventeen years of age. A settlement made in 1637 is recited in the inquisition; *ibid.* xxviii, 72. James Buckley was in ward to the king in 1641; Shaw, *Oldham*, 92. James Buckley of Whitfield occurs in 1673 and 1681, and was buried at Oldham, 24 January 1699-1700; John Buckley is named in 1708; *ibid.* In 1713 the estate was sold by James Buckley to John Lever of Alkrington and was afterwards (in 1849) in severalties; Raines, in *Notitia Cestr.* ii, 115. In the *Clegg Pedigree* (1840) the succession is given as—Lawrence Buckley, s. James, s. George, s. James, s. James, s. James, who died in 1726, leaving his sisters as heirs.

¹⁷ From some of the preceding notes it will be seen that a family or families using the local surname had existed in the 13th century. Among the Agecroft deeds (334) is a grant of homages and services from Adam son of Hugh de Goledene and Eve his wife to Adam son of Jordan de Crompton, but the place is not mentioned.

Disputes as to bounds and right of way between Thomas Chetham and William Crompton were in 1481 and 1482 settled by arbitration, bounds being 'preket be iiij men'; Clowes D. no. 131, 132.

From 1451 to 1537 one John Crompton after another was a free tenant of the Abbot of Cockersand, paying 12d. rent; *Chartul.* iii, 1238-41.

Robert Crompton of Crompton Hall contributed to the subsidy of 1523 for his lands; Shaw, *Oldham*, 15.

William Crompton died in 1587, holding a capital messuage called Whetstone Hill in Oldham of Edmund Prestwich of Hulme, and messuages in Crompton of James Browne of Westhoughton (the purchaser of the Cockersand lands), by a rent of 12d. Thomas, his son and heir, was thirteen years of age; Duchy of Lanc. Inq. p.m. xiv, 25. About the same time died Edmund Crompton, whose will is printed in Shaw, *op. cit.* 32.

Thomas Crompton's name is on the list of freeholders, 1600; *Misc.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), i, 247. He died in 1607, leaving three young daughters as heirs; the lands in Crompton were stated to be held of the king (as duke) by the twentieth part of a knight's fee; *Lancs. Inq. p.m.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), i, 92. His will is printed in Shaw, *op. cit.* 45; it mentions brothers Abel and Samuel.

Some deeds relating to the Cromptons of Crompton and Oldham are contained in the Hyde of Denton charters, Harl. MS. 2112, fol. 153, &c.; for Robert Hyde in 1630 married Alice, one of the daughters and co-heirs of Thomas Crompton. Deborah, another daughter, married Samuel Hamer.

Crompton Hall, perhaps at first so called from its tenants under the Abbey of Cockersand, was in 1672 owned by William Richardson, and in 1696 and later by Hugh Yannes; Shaw, *op. cit.* 176, 218, 264.

Hugh Yannes of Crompton Hall died in 1746 or 1747, having made a settlement in 1732. His heirs were his daughter Alice wife of the Rev. Samuel Townson and the children of his other daughter Esther, who had married John Buckley; note of his will by Mr. W. F. Irvine.

¹⁸ Edmund Prestwich of Hulme in 1577 held lands in Oldham and Crompton of the heirs of Robert Chadderton; Duchy of Lanc. Inq. p.m. xii, no. 4.

¹⁹ This family has been mentioned above. Cuthbert Scholefield of Shaw was a freeholder in 1600; *Misc.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), i, 249.

²⁰ The Wilds seem to have lived at Low Crompton and Cowlshaw. Robert Wild contributed to the subsidy of 1523 for lands; Shaw, *Oldham*, 15. Ottiwell Wild in 1571 made a settlement of his messuage, burgage, lands, &c.; Pal. of Lanc. Feet of F. bde. 33, m. 156. His name, as 'of Cowlshaw,' appears among the freeholders of 1600; *Misc.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), i, 249. Henry Wild of Low Crompton, Henry Wild of Doghill, and William Wild, senior, a recusant, contributed to the subsidy of 1641; Shaw, *op. cit.* 88. James Wild in 1672 left a rent-charge of £5 for the poor; *Char. Rep.* 1826, xvi, 233.

occur. A survey of the township was made in 1623.²¹ The moors were surveyed in 1640.²²

In 1787 the principal individual owner was Mr. Pickford of Royton, who contributed about a seventh part of the land tax.²³

SHAW seems to have given a name to a landowner in 1370.²⁴ The people of the place are noted for their love of vocal music; a musical society was formed in 1740, and continued almost to the present time.²⁵

The 'free chapel' at Shaw, now CHURCH known as Holy Trinity, is said to have been called anciently St. Patrick's Chapel-on-the-Moor.²⁶ Its origin is unknown, and the ornaments found there in 1552 show it to have been but poorly furnished.²⁷ There was no endowment, but after the Reformation it appears to have remained in occasional use, a 'reading minister' being supplied, and a lecturer being added, probably by the contributions of the people.²⁸ The Commonwealth authorities took advantage of the 'delinquency' of Edmund Ashton of Chadderton, who had the tithes of Oldham, to make him settle an endowment on the chapel.²⁹ This of course lapsed at the Restoration.

The Nonconformist Oliver Heywood preached at Shaw Chapel several times between 1663 and 1669; but ten years later he was molested after the conclusion of the services and brought before the magistrate.³⁰ At the Bishop of Chester's visitation in 1669 it was reported that considerable numbers of Nonconformists assembled constantly at Shaw Chapel, forcing the doors open when locked. On one Sunday, being prevented, they adjourned to Royton Hall. In 1671 Joshua Wilde, 'pretended clerk,' was presented for presuming to preach.

In 1719 it was recorded that 'no certain salary belongs to the curate, but the rector generally allows

£5 per annum, and the neighbouring inhabitants about £13; augmented 1718 with £200 given by Mr. Ashton, rector of Prestwich.'³¹ Grants from Queen Anne's Bounty were secured and laid out in lands, which in 1778 were producing £46 a year; the chapel was then regularly served every Lord's Day.³² The chapel was rebuilt in 1739 and enlarged in 1798,³³ and again rebuilt in 1870. A district was assigned to it in 1835.³⁴ The following have been curates and vicars, the rector of Prestwich presenting:—

1693	Jas. Lawton
1699	James Makon ³⁵
1701	John Halliwell, M.A. ³⁶ (Brasenose Coll. Oxf.)
1712	John Kippax, ³⁷ M.A. (St. John's Coll. Camb.)
1727	Joshua Stopford, B.A. (Brasenose Coll. Oxf.)
1761	James Wild, B.A. (Brasenose Coll. Oxf.)
1766	James Mashiter ³⁸
1795	Joseph Hordern, M.A. (Brasenose Coll. Oxf.) ³⁹
1819	Joseph Hordern, M.A. (Brasenose Coll. Oxf.) ⁴⁰
1823	James Hordern, B.A. (St. Mary's Hall, Oxf.) ⁴¹
1841	Daniel Brammall, B.A. ⁴²
1866	Samuel Edwin Bartleet, M.A. ⁴³ (Trin. Coll. Camb.)
1875	James Hamer Rawdon, M.A. ⁴⁴
1877	Samuel Edwin Bartleet, M.A.
1878	George Allen, M.A. (St. John's Coll. Camb.) ⁴⁵
1902	James Wilkinson Pinniger, M.A. (Wadham Coll. Oxf.)
1907	Walter Muirhead Hope, M.A. (Hertford Coll. Oxf.)

The registers date from 1704.

St. James's, East Crompton,⁴⁶ was built in 1847; the Crown and the Bishop of Manchester present alternately; there are auxiliary services at Crompton Fold and St. George's Schools. St. Mary's, High

²¹ The principal proprietors were:—Chetham, 259 acres;—Chadderton, 225; Sir John Byron, 169; Edmund Ashton, 161;—Lever, 134;—Crompton, 114; the others, holding from 30 to 50 acres, were:—Wrigley, Prestwich, Scholefield, Kershaw, Buckley, Wild, and Tetlow. The total, 1,124 acres (large measure), corresponds nearly with the 2,865 acres of the township. Details of Sir John Byron's holding were:—Inland 110 acres; on Shaw and Hathershaw Moor, 16; Beal Moor, 6; High Moor, 30, with turbarry on 6 acres; and 1 acre stone and coal; Shaw, *Oldham*, 63, 66.

²² *Oldham Notes and Gleanings*, ii, 53–5; they were:—Shaw Moors (4), High Moor, Beal Moor, and Hathershaw.

²³ Land-tax returns at Preston. The proportion is about the same as the Byron holding in 1623.

²⁴ In 1370 Thomas de Shaw settled lands in Crompton on his son Alexander, with remainders to Thomas and Henry, brothers of Alexander; Raines in Gastrell's *Notitia*, ii, 119.

²⁵ *Oldham Notes and Gleanings*, i, 125.

²⁶ Canon Raines in Gastrell's *Notitia*, *ut supra*. He states: 'The chapel is parochial, and a chapel rate is levied [1849] and collected independent either of Prestwich or Oldham.'

²⁷ *Ch. Gds.* (Chet. Soc.), 43; Lawrence Hall was the priest there. The chapel was valued at 13s. 4d. on its confiscation by the king, and purchased by the inhabitants; Raines, *Chantries* (Chet. Soc.), ii, 277.

²⁸ Hugh Burdman, literate, was licensed to be the reader at Shaw in July 1575; Pennant's Note-book (Chet. Reg.), fol. 4. John Yareley was there in 1587, and William Plant in 1636; Mr. Earwaker's notes. It was 'supplied by a curate' about 1610; *Hist. MSS. Com. Rep.* xiv, App. iv, 11. A Mr. Worthington was lecturer there in 1622; *Misc.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), i, 66. Lemuel Allen was curate in 1625; Shaw, *Oldham*, 70.

²⁹ Out of the impropriate rectory of Oldham, part of his estate, £40, was in 1646 ordered to be paid for 'increase of the maintenance of a minister in the chapel of Shaw'; *Plund. Mins. Accts.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), i, 39. This was afterwards agreed to by Edmund Ashton and James his son and heir; *ibid.* ii, 117.

In 1650 the Commissioners recommended that it be made a parish church; *Commonw. Ch. Surv.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), 22.

In 1649 Robert Symonds had been the minister, but like his superior, the rector of Prestwich, he did not pay much respect to the Manchester Classics, and left in 1650; he was rector of Dalbury from 1652 to 1662, and then, conforming, became rector of Middleton; *Manch. Classis* (Chet. Soc.), ii, 134, 137; iii, 446; Raines, in Gastrell, *Notitia*, ii, 120. James Walton was minister in 1655–6; *Plund. Mins. Accts.* ii, 118. He remained till 1662, when he was ejected; *Manch. Classis*, iii, 449.

The following is mentioned as curate

in Shaw's *Oldham*:—1674, Benjamin Gilbody, B.A. No curate is named in Stratford's Visitation List, 1691.

³⁰ O. Heywood's *Diaries*, i, 184, 259, 264, 265; ii, 90.

³¹ Gastrell, *Notitia Cestr.* ii, 119.

³² Rector Harris in Booker, *Prestwich*, 85.

³³ An account of Shaw Chapel, by John Higson, is printed in *Oldham Notes and Gleanings*, i, 112, 122.

³⁴ *Lond. Gaz.* 5 May 1835.

³⁵ The church papers at Chest. Dioc. Reg. begin at this time.

³⁶ Afterwards curate of Oldham. Oxford degrees are taken from Foster, *Alumni*.

³⁷ *Admissions to St. John's Coll.* ii, 148.

³⁸ There was a Richard Mashiter, of Pembroke College, Oxford; B.A. 1742. For his son see E. Butterworth, *Oldham* [ed. 1856], 60.

³⁹ Father of his two successors, and of Rev. Peter Hordern, librarian of the Chetham Hospital.

⁴⁰ Afterwards vicar of Rostherne (1821) and Burton Agnes (1855).

⁴¹ Senior magistrate of Oldham Sessions; had a school at Royton Hall and then at Failsforth Lodge; vicar of Doddington, Kent, 1841.

⁴² Vicar of Chislet, Kent, 1833.

⁴³ Perp. curate of Ringley 1875–7; in 1878 exchanged Shaw for Brockworth, Glos.; of St. Mark's, Gloucester, 1885.

⁴⁴ Vicar of Preston, 1877.

⁴⁵ Vicar of Brockworth, Glos., 1871–8.

⁴⁶ For district, *Lond. Gaz.* 14 Jan. 1845.

A HISTORY OF LANCASHIRE

Crompton, built in 1872, consecrated in 1878, and since enlarged, is in the Bishop of Manchester's patronage.⁴⁷

There are Wesleyan, Primitive, and Free Methodist churches.

The Congregational church at Shaw originated in services begun in 1847, but suspended for a time. A small chapel, purchased from the Wesleyans, was opened in 1856 to serve for Shaw and Royton. Shaw became separate in 1861, but afterwards the work ceased. A fresh start was made in 1886, an iron chapel being erected, followed by the present building.⁴⁸

The Roman Catholic Church of St. Joseph, Shaw Edge, built in 1874, was rebuilt in 1896.

In 1856 the Mormons had a meeting-place at Shaw.

ROYTON

Ruhwinton, 1212; Ritton, 1226; Ryton, 1260—usual; Ruyton, 1332.

The extreme measurements of Royton are about 2 miles from east to west, and $1\frac{1}{2}$ from north to south; the area is 1,372 acres.¹ The general slope of its hilly surface is from east to west, the limits being 825 ft. on Oldham Edge and 400 ft. at Street Bridge. The old village of Royton, which has now become a small town, is situated in a deep valley in the north-west quarter of the township; to the south-west of it are the hamlets of Haggate, Royley, and Holdenfold; to the north-west lies Thorpe; to the north, Dogford; to the east are Luzley Brook and Heyside; and to the south Longsight. The River Irk rises on the northern border, and flows west along it. Oldham has begun to spread over the southern border. The population in 1901 was 14,881, including part of that of Thornham.²

The principal road is that from Oldham to Rochdale, which passes through the town. A branch of it goes north-east to Shaw, to which place another road from Oldham passes through the township. Another important road is that from Royton to Middleton. The Oldham and Rochdale branch of the Lancashire and Yorkshire Railway passes through one corner of the township; a branch line from the north of Oldham runs north-west to Royton, its terminus. The Oldham electric tramway to Crompton passes through the township.

The soil is sand, with subsoil of clay. Hay is the chief crop. There are large cotton factories; fustian cutting is carried on, and there is a colliery.³

About 1780 Royton village 'contained only a few straggling and mean-built cottages,' but with the introduction of the weaving of fustians and other branches of the cotton manufacture it increased rapidly.⁴ A local board was formed in 1863,⁵ and the bounds were extended by the addition of part of Thornham in 1879.⁶ A town hall and market were built in 1880. The local board gave place in 1894 to an urban district council of fifteen members, chosen for five wards—Dogford, Dryclough, Haggate, Heyside, and Thornham. There is a cemetery in Rochdale Road, opened in 1879.

The 'wakes' are held on the first Saturday in August.

At Whitebanks, near Oldham Edge, there was 'a good chalybeate spring.'⁷

An account of Royton, its chapel, politics, and celebrities, written by John Higson, is printed in *Oldham Notes and Gleanings*.⁸ John Butterworth, a noted mathematician, who died in 1845, is buried in the churchyard. George Travis, born at Royton in 1741, became vicar of Eastham and Archdeacon of Chester, dying in 1797. He distinguished himself by his knowledge of the law of tithe, which he used to advance the value of his benefice from £30 to £100 a year. He also had a bitter controversy with Gibbon and Porson, defending the authenticity of 1 John v. 7.⁹ Richard Dean, 1727–78, was another divine and author.¹⁰

A local saying, of unknown origin, refers to 'the seven that came from Royton.'¹¹

The residence of Richard and Thomas Percival in 1666 had twelve hearths liable to the tax; the rest of the township brought the total up to 54.¹²

In 1212 ROYTON was held of the MANOR king in thegnage as twelve oxgangs of land by a rent of 24s., the tenant being William Fitz William.¹³ William died about the end of 1223, and was succeeded by his son Thomas,¹⁴ who was still living in 1254.¹⁵ Thomas had a daughter Margery, who married Alexander Luttrell of Somerset, and in or before 1260 they sold nine oxgangs in Royton and 60 acres in Thorpe and Healey to John de Byron.¹⁶ It appears, however, that Alice de Byron, mother of Roger, had 'the whole town' in 1246, and had farmed it out to Roger Gernet.¹⁷

⁴⁷ For district, *Lond. Gaz.* 9 July, 1878.

⁴⁸ Nightingale, *Lancs. Nonconf.* v, 264–6.

¹ 2,145, including 11 of inland water, according to the Census Rep. 1901; this includes the added portion of Thornham.

² *Pop. Ret.* 1901.

³ In 1795 the farms were small; the land was mostly pasture, but oats, potatoes, and a few turnips were grown. There were then 'a great number of cotton mills and a fulling mill, chiefly for the Rochdale baize.' The collieries had been worked for a century. Freestone was obtained; Aikin, *Country Round Manch.* 238, 239.

⁴ Butterworth, *Oldham*, 97. The people were formerly very Radical in their politics. In 1794 they held a reform meeting, but were put to flight by a mob from Oldham; the episode was called the 'Royton Races'; *ibid.* 137.

⁵ *Lond. Gaz.* 16 Oct. 1863.

⁶ Local Govt. Bd. Order 31625; the

population of the included portion was 939. ⁷ Butterworth, *op. cit.* 107.

⁸ Vol. i, 181–5. A list of curates is given. It is mentioned that a botanical society was formed there in 1794.

⁹ *Dict. Nat. Biog.*; Scott, *Admissions to St. John's Coll. Camb.* iii, 159, 671.

¹⁰ *Dict. Nat. Biog.*

¹¹ *Lancs. and Ches. Antiq. Soc.* vi, 182.

¹² Subs. R. bdle. 250, no. 9, Lancs.

¹³ *Lancs. Inq. and Extents* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), i, 69. For pedigree see Collins, *Peerage* (1779), v, 160–1.

¹⁴ On 23 Feb. 1223–4 the sheriff was ordered to take security for his relief, and give seisin; Thomas had already done homage and fealty; Fine R. 8 Hen. III, m. 9. William's name, however, is retained in the roll of 1226; *Lancs. Inq. and Extents*, i, 138.

¹⁵ The sheriff was in 1254–5 ordered to make a perambulation between the

lands of Thomas Fitz William in Royton and Geoffrey de Chetham in Crompton; Close R. 70, m. 8 d.

In 1253 Alice de Sar' and her sisters Cecily and Agnes charged Cecily widow of Richard de Royton with being concerned in the burning of their houses, &c.; Curia Regis R. 150, m. 8 d.

William de Royton contributed to the subsidy in 1332; *Exch. Lay Subs.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), 31.

¹⁶ *Final Conc.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), i, 133. See also the agreement of 1270, from Close R. 91, m. 5 d., printed in the same volume, 216. The grant by the Luttrells is given in the Black Bk. of Clayton, no. 62/47; a rent of 1d. was due to the grantors.

¹⁷ Assize R. 404, m. 10 d.; the record is corrupt, there being some confusion between Alice and a Margery—perhaps the above-named wife of Alexander Luttrell.

From 1260 or 1270 to the beginning of the 17th century the manor descended in the Byron family,¹⁸ and during the later part of this period seems to have been their chief residence.¹⁹ In or about 1622 it was sold to the Standishes of Standish,²⁰ and was again sold in 1662 to Thomas Percival, probably a trader of Manchester.²¹ It continued in this family for a century,²² when Catherine daughter of a later Thomas Percival of Royton, who died in 1763, carried it in marriage to Joseph Pickford²³ of Althill. She died in 1765, leaving an only son William Percival Pickford. He died in 1815 without issue, and gave Royton to his father, who had married again, and in 1795 took the name of Radcliffe on inheriting the estates of his mother's brother, William Radcliffe of Mills Bridge, Yorkshire. He was created a baronet in 1813, having taken a prominent part in suppressing the Luddite riots of the previous year.²⁴ Royton has



BYRON. *Argent three bendlets enhanced gules.*

descended with the issue of this second marriage to the present baronet, Sir Joseph Edward Radcliffe, of Rudding Park, Knaresborough.

Royton Old Hall was described in 1795 as 'a firm, well-built stone edifice of ancient date . . . pleasantly seated in a deep valley, surrounded by high grounds. In front of the house runs a small stream dividing the gardens from rich meadows.'²⁵ This description was substantially repeated thirty years later,²⁶ the meadows being still 'fertile' and 'luxurious,' but the surroundings have since so much changed that the original aspect of the building is somewhat difficult to reconstitute, though the stream, now much polluted, still runs at the bottom of the garden. The park and grounds have long disappeared, and the surroundings are now purely industrial.

The hall was largely rebuilt in the 18th century,



RADCLIFFE of Royton, baronet. *Argent a bend engrailed sable charged with a crescent of the field for difference.*

¹⁸ The 24s. paid by Richard de Byron (in Royton) appears in the extent of the lands of Edmund, Earl of Lancaster, in 1297; *Inq. and Extents*, i, 301. Richard de Byron in 1324 held a plough-land and a half by a rent of 24s.; Duchy of Lanc. Rentals and Surv. 379, m. 13. The mesne lordship of the Luttrells was still remembered in 1346, when it was recorded that Andrew Luttrell held 12 oxgangs of land in Royton in socage, and by his tenants, Sir James Byron and John his brother, rendered 24s. rent, puture, &c.; Add. MS. 32103, fol. 146. In the inquisition taken soon after the death of Sir Richard Byron of Clayton in 1397 it was stated that he had held four messuages and twelve oxgangs in Royton of the Duke of Lancaster by knight's service; *Lancs. Inq. p.m.* (Chet. Soc.), i, 65.

In an extent of 1445-6 Sir John Byron was said to hold twelve oxgangs of land in socage by a rent of 24s. yearly; he stated that he held of Andrew Luttrell, and also by feoffment; Duchy of Lanc. Knights' Fees, bdle. 2, no. 20. The tenure was less correctly stated in 1498 after the death of Sir John Byron, the four messuages and twelve oxgangs being held of the king as of his duchy of Lancaster in socage, by the service of 24s., being worth 10 marks clear; Duchy of Lanc. Inq. p.m. iii, 48. Royton occurs down to 1608 in Byron settlements, e.g. Pal. of Lanc. Feet of F. bdle. 15, m. 147; 61, m. 347; 71, no. 2.

In 1310 John de Byron granted to Adam de Chadderton 4 acres of the waste in Royton; Clowes D.

¹⁹ In 1432 a release to Sir John Byron was made by the feeoffee concerning lands in Royton and Butterworth; the deed is dated at Royton; Duchy of Lanc. Inq. p.m. iii, 70.

Sir John Byron in 1588 addressed a letter to the Salford justices, dated at Royton; *Lancs. Lieutenancy* (Chet. Soc.), ii, 215. Described as 'of Royton,' he heads the list of freeholders in Salford Hundred in 1600; *Misc.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), i, 246.

²⁰ In a petition of 1622-3 Sir John Byron the younger is described as 'lord and owner of the manor and lordship of

Royton'; Shaw, *Oldham*, 60. In 1622, however, Ralph Standish contributed to the subsidy for lands in Royton; *Misc.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), i, 158. Ten years later there is further evidence that Ralph Standish was in possession; Shaw, op. cit. 75.

²¹ On 27 Mar. 1662 Thomas Percival and Richard his brother purchased Royton of Edward Standish and William his son and heir apparent for £2,530. The purchase included cottages, &c., and all their interest in Royton and Chadderton; the rents amounted to £120 a year; Shaw, op. cit. 157.

²² There is an erroneous pedigree in Burke's *Commoners*, iv, 612, stating that Thomas's son Richard was baptized in Drogheda in 1675, and Thomas was himself made an alderman of that corporation in 1690 by William III. It is further stated that his will was made in 1702 and proved in Dublin in 1703; but Thomas Percival of Royton was buried at Manchester 10 Dec. 1694; Shaw, *Oldham*, 214. At Royton he apparently acted as banker for the neighbourhood; see the list of his loans in Shaw, 196, 197. Thomas's elder brother Richard Percival purchased the manor of Allerton in Childwall. In 1664 Thomas Percival of Royton was summoned to attend the Herald's Visitation, but no pedigree is recorded; Dugdale, *Visit.* (Chet. Soc.), p. v. He was a trustee of Oldham Grammar School in 1673; Shaw, op. cit. 180. By his will, dated 1693, he gave £150 to the poor of Manchester, to be laid out by his executors and his cousin Richard Percival; in 1826 this was supposed to be represented by an estate of 10 acres in Royton; *Char. Rep.* (1826), xvi, 148.

In 1682 John Gilliam of Manchester married Jane daughter of Thomas Percival of Royton; he was buried 20 July 1688, and an account of the funeral expenses, &c., is printed by Shaw, *Oldham*, 187, 200. Their daughter Jane married John Greaves of Culcheth in Newton.

Richard Percival of Royton married Katherine daughter of Thomas Norris of Speke, and their sons Thomas, William, and Richard were baptized in 1688, 1690, and 1696, the two former at Manchester;

ibid. 199, 203, 205, 217. Richard was buried 27 Apr. 1697; 220. His widow Katherine appears as granting a lease in the next year; 221; see also 229.

Thomas Percival, 'of Royton, esquire,' was buried 19 Mar. 1710-1; his father and grandfather had been described as 'gent.'; ibid. 248. His brother William succeeded, and in 1713 took part in the settlement of the boundaries of Hollinwood in Oldham, but did not sign the agreement; 253. He married Dorothy daughter of Thomas Kenyon of Salford (Butterworth, op. cit.); his son Thomas was born 1 Sept. 1719; Shaw, op. cit. 269. William was buried 12 July 1721; 275.

Letters from Thomas Percival to one of the Kenyon family, 1759-61, are printed in *Hist. MSS. Com. Rep.* xiv, App. iv, 496-8. In one he speaks of himself as 'enlisted among the men of speculative learning'; in another, though 'sincerely for the good of the Church of England,' he objected to the interference of the clergy in state affairs, and affirmed, 'when ever you want a key to a priest's conduct, that interest is his ruling motive.' James Butterworth in his history of *Oldham* (ed. 1817) states: 'To Sir Joseph Radcliffe, Bart., of Mills Bridge in the county of York, I owe all my most material information, chiefly collected by his father-in-law, T. Percival, Esq., of Royton Hall (who appears to have been a great lover of antiquity); his pedigrees of the Lancashire families, collected by himself, with the great additions made by the before-mentioned worthy baronet, are an invaluable treasure, and with them I have been kindly favoured by him'; p. xi. In the same work (102) is a Percival-Radcliffe pedigree.

There are monuments in St. Paul's Church to Katherine Pickford, 1765, and to Sir Joseph Radcliffe, 1819.

²³ Joseph Pickford in 1779 paid 24s. to the Duchy for Royton; Duchy of Lanc. Rentals, bdle. 14, no. 25 m.

²⁴ *Lancs. and Ches. Antiq. Soc.* xiv, 161.

²⁵ Aikin, *A Description of the Country from Thirty to Forty Miles round Manchester*, 239.

²⁶ Corry, *Lancs.* 1825, ii, 527; Butterworth, *Oldham*, 1826.

A HISTORY OF LANCASHIRE

but part of the 17th-century structure remains at the east end, consisting of a wing running north and south with a gable at each end. The house is built of stone, with stone slated roofs and brick chimneys, and has a long frontage facing south, with a slightly recessed middle portion two stories high and loftier gabled wings. The site slopes from north to south, so that in the south or principal front the ground floor is raised well above the level of the garden, allowing for a good basement. A double flight of stone steps leads from an outer door on this side to the garden.

The 18th-century rebuilding, together with subsequent additions and alterations on the north side, has made it very difficult to determine the lines of the original plan, but the whole of the later work on the south front is built on an older basement apparently of the same date as the east wing, which goes to show that the extent of the original house on this side was the same as that of the present one. The buildings are grouped round a quadrangle of irregular shape, longer from west to east, but those on the north and part of the west side are of modern date, which makes it impossible to say how far they carry out the original arrangement. The east wing, as before stated, is part of the 17th-century building with mullioned and transomed windows and a square projection on the west side to the courtyard containing a radiating oak staircase.²⁷ The south and south-west parts of the building are of plain 18th-century work with little or no architectural detail. The older wing has a good stone chimney on its east side with brick shafts set diagonally, and at the north end has string-courses marking the first and second floors, which are not continued round the south end. The gable is without coping, and the general appearance of the wing at this end suggests that it had formerly been the back of the house or that some of its features have been removed in later times. It is probable that the

original house was built on three sides of the courtyard only, the north, which would be the principal front of the building, being left open.

The 18th-century rebuilding appears to have been done at two different times, there being a straight joint on the south front about the middle of the centre wing, between the door and the window east of it. The spacing of the windows also points in the same direction. They are of the usual tall square-headed type, with stone architraves, and originally had casements and wooden mullions, but these have been replaced by sashes, which detract from the appearance of the house. The walls of the older wing are of rough masonry, but the later work is built in squared coursed stones, with projecting quoins, and at its west end is faced with brick. Against the brick wall at the south-west corner is a spout-head with the initials T^PM and the date 1768.

There is some good 18th-century panelling with classic cornice, now painted over, in a room in the middle wing, and a large room in the east wing, which was altered in the 18th century and has two windows of that date on its east side, preserves a portion of its decoration, though the oak dado has recently been taken away.

The house has been for a long time divided into two. The western part is now a private residence, and the east wing is used as a Church Institute.

There was recently a pedestal sundial in the garden with many facets, but it has been taken away by the owner. A wall sundial on the south side over the door is still in position.

Other local families may be named. The Shaws of Heyside recorded a pedigree in 1664, and occur in various ways for a century longer.²⁸ The Tetlows of Royley²⁹ seem to have been succeeded in the 17th century by the Rhodes family.³⁰ Holdens of Holdenfold occur.³¹ At Thorpe the Taylors had a residence.³² Dryclough was once held by the Mellors.³³

²⁷ The local but foolish tradition is that the stairs are built round the trunk of a tree which grew on the spot, and now forms the newel.

²⁸ Dugdale, *Visit.* 260; they had only recently settled in Royton. The epitaph of Oliver Shaw, who died 1 Aug. 1706, 'after various conditions of life,' is given by Butterworth, *op. cit.* 29. 'Old Mrs. Shaw, from Heyside,' was buried at Oldham, 1 Nov. 1710. She was probably Alice daughter of Thomas Chetham, of Heyside, and wife of Oliver.

For the Chetham family's connexion with Royton see Ernest Axon's *Chet. Genealogies* (Chet. Soc. new ser.), 6, 9, 12. A Ralph Chetham, who died in or about 1538, left his 'take and farmhold' in Royton to his sons Adam and Robert, and part of the Moor Hey to his son James; *ibid.* 17. In 1541 James Chetham contributed to the subsidy 'for goods'; *Misc.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), i, 145.

The Shaws had disappeared before 1817, when Butterworth wrote.

Heyside was in 1842 'notorious for wickedness of the vilest description'; Nightingale, *Lancs. Nonconf.* v, 267.

²⁹ Sir John Byron (about 1270) granted to Robert the Falconer lands in Royton, within bounds beginning at Royton wall and following the bounds of the oxgangs of the vill of Royton as far as Eliclough on the south, by the edge to Wallayke (where was Robert's house) and to the

Mill Brook; up this to Royley Brook, and so to the starting-point; at a rent of 6s. 6d.; Black Bk. of Clayton, 81/241. Two Falconers, Adam and Robert, contributed to the subsidy of 1332; *Exch. Lay Subs.* 30, 31.

The charter cited is headed 'Copy of the Charter of Adam de Tetlow, of Royley in Royton.' Alexander son of Adam de Tetlow complained that a number of men had seized his goods at Royton in 1372, taking his linen and woollen cloth, mase bowls, and silver, brass, wood, and pewter utensils, &c.; *Coram Rege* R. 463, m. 55. John Tetlow of Royley is mentioned in 1541; Shaw, *Oldham*, 18. Mary Tetlow widow seems to have been the principal resident in 1641, having an income of £20 a year; *ibid.* 92.

³⁰ In 1653 John Rhodes (Roades) of Royley in Royton leased land in the Ryott and the Gorsey Hill in Hartingstead Yate to Edmund Taylor; *ibid.* 145. A further lease was made in 1655; 149. Edward Shacklock of Moston in 1666 bequeathed lands he had purchased of Henry Wrigley and John Rhodes to John Rhodes, the younger son of the last-named; *ibid.* 166.

Royley is mentioned by Butterworth (*op. cit.* 115) as noted for its coal. At the adjacent hamlet of Streetbridge there were in 1817 a paper mill and collieries; 107.

³¹ Holdenfold, it is supposed, took its name from the proprietors. Ralph Holden contributed to the subsidy in 1622;

Misc. (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), i, 158. Ralph Holden died 23 Aug. 1625, leaving a son and heir Ralph, about nine years of age. His lands in Royton were held of the king. By his will he left them to his son, then to his wife, and to his brothers Edmund and Ralph in succession. If Edmund or the other brother should succeed he was to pay a rent of £4 a year to the poor of Oldham; Towneley MS. C. 8, 13 (Chet. Lib.), p. 518.

³² Butterworth, *op. cit.* 108. James Taylor died 19 Dec. 1624 holding lands in Heaton Fallowfield, Castleton, and Royton; the last estate was two messuages, &c., held of the king. All was left to his son John, then over fifty; then a division was to take place among John's daughters—Elizabeth Hayward, Susan Butterworth, and Mary Ogden. The Royton lands were to go to Elizabeth, then wife of Thomas Heaward or Hayward, and their son Robert; Towneley MS. C. 8, 13, p. 1, 187. For another John Taylor of Thorpe (1654) see *Oldham Notes and Gleanings*, iii, 53.

Ralph Taylor is said to have had a small cotton mill at Thorpe Clough as early as 1764; E. Butterworth, *Oldham* (ed. 1856), 119.

³³ *Ibid.* 113; they were in 1817 'regular carriers to different parts of the kingdom.' Mr. Andrew had there a large malt kiln. The only windmill in the parish stood there, and there were collieries.



PRESTWICH : DEYNE HALL, TAKEN DOWN 1837



ROYTON HALL

There are incidental notices of other estates in the township.³⁴

Royton Moss has long been inclosed.³⁵

For the Established Church St. Paul's was built in 1754³⁶ and consecrated in 1757; it was restored and enlarged a century later, and was rebuilt between 1883 and 1889. An ecclesiastical parish was assigned to it in 1835.³⁷ There is a mission church, All Saints', in connexion with it. The rector of Prestwich is the patron. St. Mark's, Heyside, was built in 1878;³⁸ the patronage is vested in five trustees; it has a mission room called St. Chad's.

The Wesleyan Methodists have a chapel built in 1804. The Primitive and Independent Methodists also have chapels.

The Baptist Church dates from 1873.

From 1847 to 1861 Royton and Shaw were worked together by the Congregationalists. In the last-named year a separation was made, and a church was built at Royton in 1864. At Heyside, where services began in 1842, a school-room was built in 1851 and a chapel in 1880.³⁹

The Society of Friends have had a meeting-place at Turf Lane, Heyside, from about 1665;⁴⁰ the first burial took place in that year. The house was rebuilt in 1885, but is used only occasionally.⁴¹

The Roman Catholic school-chapel of SS. Aidan and Oswald was built in 1880.⁴²

The Calvinistic Methodists and the Mormons had meeting-places in 1856.

CHADDERTON

Chaderthorpe, Chaderton, c. 1250; Chaterton, 1291; Chatherton, 1304; Chadderton, 1468.

This township measures about 3 miles from north to south, and less than 2 miles across; its area is 3,138 acres.¹ The surface is hilly, but the general slope is from east to west; the highest points, 500 ft., are in the extreme north-east. The Irk and some tributary brooks flow through the township. The growth of Oldham has given an urban character to

the east and south-east borderland; and on the west a small town has grown up round Middleton Junction. The population in 1901 was 24,892.

The road from Manchester to Oldham passes near, and sometimes within the south-eastern boundary. Three roads from Middleton to Oldham go through the township from east to west, with numerous cross-roads.² The Lancashire and Yorkshire Company's line from Manchester to Rochdale, opened in 1839, traverses the western half of it, going northwards, and has a station about the centre, called Middleton Junction, from which lines branch off west and east to Middleton and to Oldham. The same company's Manchester and Oldham line runs along the eastern boundary, and has a station at Hollinwood. The Rochdale Canal also passes through the township.

Chadderton Heights, Chadderton Fold, and Brichin Lee are hamlets in the northern part of the township; Foxdenton lies to the east of Middleton Junction; Black Lane, Nimble Nook, Butler Green, and Coldshaw³ on the south-east border; Hale Moss and White Moss on the south.⁴ Here also was the district called Theale Moor.⁵

The boundaries of Chadderton have varied from time to time. Butterworth, writing in 1817, calls attention to the then ancient bounds, shown on his map, as contrasted with his verbal description; Hollinwood had in 1713 been taken into Oldham.⁶ There was also a small detached portion, lying under Copster Hill on the southern border of Oldham, into which it has now been absorbed.

There is a tumulus close to Chadderton Hall. Remains of Roman roads are found.

The soil is sand, with subsoil of clay and gravel. The land is mostly pasture, the dairies being the chief agricultural industry. There are numerous cotton mills on the Oldham side; also collieries, iron works, chemical works, and brick works. The coal pits are mentioned frequently in the 17th century.⁸ In 1833 hats were made.

A local board was formed in 1873;⁹ this has become since 1894 an urban district council of eighteen members, chosen by three wards—North, Central, and

³⁴ In 1369 William son of John de Chadwick and Agnes his wife had 2 messuages, 24 acres of land, &c., in Royton; *Final Conc.* ii, 176.

Robert Wyld died in 1625 holding lands of the king; Robert his son and heir was fourteen years of age; Towneley MS. C. 8, 13, p. 1291.

Humphrey Booth in 1635 held a messuage, &c. in Royton of the king; Duchy of Lanc. Inq. p.m. xxvii, 44.

³⁵ A moiety of the fields 'lately enclosed' from Royton Moss was sold in 1626; Shaw, 72. In 1817 there was no waste land, and only a few acres needed draining. There were no woods; Butterworth, 104, 105.

³⁶ Butterworth, op. cit. 99, 100. The ground was given by Thomas Percival and the cost of the building defrayed by subscription.

For its endowments and services in 1778 see Booker, *Prestwich*, 85; and in 1808, *Oldham Notes and Gleanings*, iii, 94, 95; see also iii, 205.

³⁷ *Lond. Gaz.* 5 May 1835.

³⁸ For district, *ibid.* 25 Mar. 1879.

³⁹ Nightingale, *Lancs. Nonconf.* v, 264-8. The barn of Robert Wild of Heyside was in 1672 licensed as a Presbyterian meet-

ing-place; Shaw, *Oldham*, 176. Some of the Wilds were Quakers.

⁴⁰ Meetings of Quakers were reported at the Bishop of Chester's Visitation, 1669.

⁴¹ Sylvester Sykes was buried at Heyside in 1665, and the place was used on sufferance till 1686, when a lease was secured, and a house built. This was pulled down in 1832.

John Lees, a Royton Quaker, made an improvement in the carding machine in 1772; E. Butterworth, *Oldham* (ed. 1856), 116.

⁴² Kelly, *Engl. Cath. Missions*, 337.

¹ 3,082 including 39 of inland water, according to the census of 1901.

² 'This township is truly remarkable as containing a great number of roads, on the borders of which are erected numerous cottages, which are all denominated lanes, viz., Burnley Lane, Stock Lane, Block Lane, Old Lane, Denton Lane, Thompson Lane, Dowry Lane [Drury Lane], Mought Lane, Turf Lane, Tonge Lane, and Bawtry Lane'; Butterworth, *Oldham* (ed. 1817), 163.

³ The right of way through Coleshaw Lane, on payment of 3d. a year, was recognized in 1672; Shaw, *Oldham*, 178.

⁴ 'This township extends to a white stone, which formerly was fixed near the middle of White Moss'; Butterworth, op. cit. 163. A perambulation of the bounds between Chadderton and Nuthurst was ordered in 1520; Towneley MS. CC, no. 834.

⁵ See further in the account of Moston. Leases of land in Theale Moor are given in Shaw, *Oldham*, 50, 173, 174, 193.

⁶ Butterworth, 167; the boundary here was: 'From Werneth old mill to Collier stone, near Cash yate, from thence in a direct line, cutting off about five yards of the south-east corner of the chapel yard [St. Margaret's], by Grace well, to the corner house above Grocock's, and so on by the Bowling green aforesaid.' Collier Hill indicates one of these boundaries; Grace Well has perhaps been absorbed in the canal reservoir.

A survey of Hollinwood was made in 1614; Shaw, op. cit. 56. The bounds as settled in 1713 are given in *Oldham Notes and Gleanings*, ii, 220-2, from the Raines MSS. in Chet. Lib. xxiv, 255.

⁸ See a letter from Mrs. Byrom and Mrs. Potter in 1683, printed in Shaw, *Oldham*, 190.

⁹ *Lond. Gaz.* 21 June 1873.

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South. The public library, built by Mr. Carnegie, was opened in 1904. The other public buildings include town hall, baths, and isolation hospital.

One of the Oldham cemeteries is at Springbrook, on the Middleton road.

There were 121 hearths liable to the tax in 1666. The largest houses were those of Edmund Ashton, thirteen hearths, and Alexander Potter, seven.¹⁰

From the earliest record of it, the *MANORS* survey of 1212, it appears that *CHADDERTON* was a member of the Montbegon or Tottington fee,¹¹ and so passed to the Lacys and the Crown. At the date mentioned, having been given to the 'ancestors' of Gilbert de Notton, lord of Barton in right of his wife, it was held by him as 12 oxgangs of land, by the service of the fourth part of a knight's fee.¹² It is supposed to have been held under him or his immediate successor by Geoffrey de Chetham, thus passing to the Traffords.¹³ About 1255 Gilbert [de Barton] son of Sir William de Notton, released to Sir Edmund de Lacy the homage and service of Richard de Trafford for the manor of Chadderton and its appurtenances.¹⁴ From

this time, therefore, the Traffords held directly of the lords of Tottington and Clitheroe.¹⁵

Richard de Trafford made a partition of his estates, and thus Chadderton came into the possession of his younger son Geoffrey, who adopted the local surname.¹⁶ It is difficult to decide as to the succession at this point; a Henry de Chadderton seems to have been in possession in 1292,¹⁷ yet Geoffrey de Chadderton, either the same or his son, held the manor in 1302.¹⁸ William de Chadderton, son of Geoffrey, followed; he was living in 1332.¹⁹ His son Geoffrey left a daughter and heir Margery, who in or before 1367 married John de Radcliffe,²⁰ illegitimate son of the rector of Bury. The husband died in 1407, having survived his wife and their son John, but continuing to hold Chadderton by the courtesy of England until his death. The tenure was described as of the king as Duke of Lan-



CHADDERTON. Argent a griffon segreant gules.

¹⁰ Subs. R. bdle. 250, no. 9, Lancs.

¹¹ *Lancs. Inq. and Extents* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), i, 61. In 1324 it was returned that Thomas Earl of Lancaster had held the fee in right of Alice his wife; the sake fee due from Chadderton was 3s.; *ibid.* ii, 102.

¹² *Inq. and Extents*, loc. cit. It descended to Gilbert's son Roger (who died in 1241), and was in 1234-5 granted by Roger to Gilbert de Barton (his nephew) as the manors of Chadderton and Denton in Lancashire with mills and the land of Crompton; Feet of F. Hen. III, Div. Cos. no. 66.

Gilbert de Notton granted to Stanlaw Abbey land in Chadderton within bounds beginning at the Constable's Oak, and going by Netherlee Brook and the Moss, 'as the moss and the dry land divide,' to Tache Lache and the bounds of 'Caule Shaw' (Coldshaw), and by a lache on the south back to the oak; *Whalley Coucher* (Chet. Soc.), i, 48. In 1549 two parts of a messuage in Chadderton were held by James Ashton of the king, by reason of the attainder of the Abbot of Whalley, the service being 4d. yearly; Duchy of Lanc. Inq. p.m. ix, 29. A house called Thatch Leach lies about a quarter of a mile to the south-east of Foxdenton Hall.

In 1242 Gilbert de Barton held the fourth part of a knight's fee in Chadderton, of the Earl of Lincoln's fee of Tottington; it belonged to the dower of the countess; *Lancs. Inq. and Extents*, i, 153.

In 1324 the judge of Chadderton paid 4s. to the steward of the court at Tottington in respect of a fine for respite of suit; *Lancs. Ct. R.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), 9. In 1626 three constables were required to attend the Tottington court; Shaw, *Oldham*, 70.

¹³ See the account of Cheetham.

¹⁴ Duchy of Lanc. Anct. D. L.1221; the date is fixed by the name of the first witness—'Henry de Wingeham, Chancellor of the King,' 1255-8.

Gilbert de Barton's succession had been in 1224 disputed by Roger de Notton; *Cal. Pat.* 1216-25, p. 488.

¹⁵ The Trafford tenure is that recognized in the feodaries, &c. In the *De Lacy Inq.*

of 1311 (Chet. Soc. p. 19) it was stated that Henry de Trafford held of the earl the manor of Chadderton by the service of one knight's fee, and suit of court.

In 1346 Isabel Queen of England held it of the heirs of Alice de Lacy as the fifth of a knight's fee, paying 3s. by the hands of Henry de Trafford her tenant, and 2s. for castle ward; Add. MS. 32103, fol. 146.

In 1445-6 Sir Edmund Trafford held Chadderton for the fifth part of a knight's fee; the relief due for it was 20s., but he said that he was in ward, and no relief was paid; Duchy of Lanc. Knights' Fees, bdle. 2, no. 20.

The reduction from the fourth part of a knight to the fifth may have been due to the separation of Foxdenton.

In 1856 Chadderton still owed suit and service to the court baron of the honour of Clitheroe; E. Butterworth, *Oldham* (ed. 1856), 13.

¹⁶ Margery, widow of Geoffrey de Chetham, in 1275 claimed dower in 20 acres in Moston and Chadderton against Geoffrey de Chadderton; De Banco R. 10, m. 35. Chadderton is not noticed in the settlement of Geoffrey de Chadderton's estate in 1278, unless the 'Couentre' is a mistake for it; *Final Conc.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), i, 153. Geoffrey de Chadderton was a juror in 1282; *Inq. and Extents*, i, 244. In 1291 Thomas de Cowlshaw complained that Geoffrey de Chadderton, the chief lord, had deprived him of common of pasture in 100 acres of moor in Chadderton, appertaining to Thomas's free tenement in Foxdenton; but he did not succeed; Assize R. 1294, m. 9. In the same year Geoffrey de Chadderton made a claim against William son of Robert de Staynringes, and Christiana his wife, respecting his hereditary estate; *ibid.* m. 11 d. The defendants may have been the William de la Hacking and Christiana his wife of the fine above referred to.

¹⁷ Henry son of Henry son of Richard de Trafford claimed the manor of Chadderton against Henry de Chadderton, on the ground that his grandfather had demised it to the defendant while of unsound mind. As in relating he claimed against Geoffrey de Chadderton, the defendant

Henry was acquitted; Assize R. 408, m. 40 d.

¹⁸ *Inq. and Extents*, i, 313.

In 1301 Geoffrey de Chadderton was one defendant to a plea of novel disseisin; and Geoffrey son of Geoffrey de Chadderton, was a defendant in another case; Assize R. 1321, m. 3. In 1304 Geoffrey de Chadderton the elder claimed certain lands as his inheritance against Adam de Rossendale and Margery his wife; Assize R. 419, m. 4. In the following year Geoffrey de Chadderton called upon Henry son of Henry de Trafford to warrant him in the possession of certain lands in Chadderton claimed by the rector of Prestwich; De Banco R. 153, m. 292 d.

Between 1301 and 1305 Geoffrey de Chadderton and Joan his wife acquired an estate in Ancoats and *Mamecestre* (Chet. Soc.), ii, 250; *Final Conc.* ii, 1. Geoffrey de Chadderton and Geoffrey his son attested a Royton charter in 1310. Geoffrey, perhaps the younger, was living in 1318, when Richard his son is mentioned; *Mamecestre*, loc. cit. He died before 1320, in which year his son William held Foxdenton; *ibid.* 279.

¹⁹ The descent here followed is that recorded in the inquisition of 1408, recited in 1511; Duchy of Lanc. Inq. p.m. iv, 96. Geoffrey de Chadderton had several other sons, e.g., Alexander and Roger; Assize R. 1435, m. 37. They had lands in Moston and Nuthurst in 1320; *Mamecestre*, 279. Alexander was living in 1329; Assize R. 427, m. 3.

William de Chadderton, who, as shown above, succeeded before 1320, was in 1332 among the plaintiffs regarding land in Chadderton and Oldham; Assize R. 1411, m. 12 d. In the same year Margery, widow of William de Chadderton, contributed to the subsidy; *Exch. Lay Sub.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), 30.

²⁰ John de Radcliffe, 'the parson's son of Bury,' and Margery his wife were plaintiffs respecting waste in Chadderton against John de Huxley and Beatrice his wife in 1367, and against Sir Henry de Trafford in 1369; De Banco R. 426, m. 35; 435, m. 126. Margery seems to have been living in 1386; *Dep. Keeper's Rep.* xl, App. 525, 526.

caster by the fourth part of a knight's fee, and by 3s. yearly (for sake fee) and 2s. for ward of Clitheroe Castle.²¹

The heir, John, grandson of Margery, was only fourteen years of age in 1407. He proved his age in 1415,²² was made a knight, and was living in 1431 when he made a settlement of his manor of Chadderton, his wife at that time being Elizabeth.²³ His heir, a son Richard, died in 1436,²⁴ leaving a son a little over a year old,²⁵ and three daughters, Joan, Margery, and Elizabeth, who succeeded their brother and divided the inheritance among them. Joan married Edmund Ashton, of the Ashton-under-Lyne family; their descendants, the Ashtons of Chadderton Hall, held the manor till the end of the 17th century. Margery married Ralph Standish of Standish, and a third of the manor long remained in the possession of this family. Elizabeth married Robert Radcliffe of the Ordsall family, and their descendants settled at Foxdenton.

Joan Ashton died in August 1478; her husband Edmund continued in possession of her third part of the manor until his death in March 1489-90; their grandson Edmund son of John was then eleven years of age. The mesne lordship of the Traffords, ignored



ASHTON of Chadderton. *Argent a mullet sable pierced of the field.*

in some preceding inquisitions, was now exercised, Sir John Trafford taking the wardship of the heir.²⁶ Edmund Ashton married Janet, one of the daughters and co-heirs of Sir James Harrington,²⁷ and died on 5 March 1542-3, leaving a son and heir James, then forty-eight years of age. In addition to the third part of Chadderton, he held the manor of Shuttleworth, and lands in Chadderton, Shuttleworth, Oldham, and Rochdale.²⁸ James Ashton died 25 August 1549; his son Edmund, married in his grandfather's lifetime to Anne daughter of Ralph Prestwich, was over twenty-eight years of age.²⁹ This son Edmund left the family estate unaltered at his death in August 1584, and was succeeded by his son James, forty-nine years old.³⁰ A pedigree was recorded in 1567.³¹

James Ashton married Dorothy, one of the four daughters and co-heirs of Sir Robert Langley of Agecroft, and received with her the advowson of Prestwich and various lands; and although they died without issue, the Ashton family appear to have retained Dorothy's share of the Langley property. James Ashton was sheriff in 1590-1.³² At his death in 1612, he was succeeded by his brother Richard's son Edmund, only eleven years of age.³³ He served as sheriff in 1627-8.³⁴ He fought on the king's side in the Civil War, being one of those who surrendered at Oxford in 1646, and afterwards compounded for his estate.³⁵ He died early in 1650, leaving a son James,³⁶ who had a family of nine children. The eldest son, Edmund, was stated to be

²¹ Inquisition recited, as above stated, in *Duchy of Lanc. Inq. p.m. iv*, no. 96. The clear value was 20 marks. The other Chadderton estate named is a ploughland in Witton.

John de Radcliffe seems to have married a second time; for the feoffees of John son of Roger de Barlow in 1405 granted lands in Manchester and Spotland to John de Radcliffe for life, with remainders to Robert, Alice, Jemima, Joan, Ellen, and Elizabeth, his children—probably by Margery de Barlow, after whose death the trustees had them.

²² He was born 26 Jan. 1392-3, at Medecroft, and baptized in Bury Church, the sponsors being John de Radcliffe of Chadderton and Margaret del Heap; *Dep. Keeper's Rep. xxxix*, App. 543.

²³ *Final Conc. iii*, 97. Elizabeth, the widow of Sir John, died 15 Aug. 1442; her daughter and heir was Margaret, wife of Sir Geoffrey Radcliffe, then aged about thirty years; Towneley MS. DD, no. 1489.

²⁴ The writs of *Diem clausit extr.* after the deaths of Sir John de Radcliffe of Chadderton and of Richard his son were respectively issued on 7 Oct. and 13 Nov. 1436; *Dep. Keeper's Rep. xxxiii*, App. 37.

²⁵ The *inq. p.m.* is in Towneley MS. DD, no. 1487; in this the mesne lordship of Sir Edmund Trafford is recognized; the clear value of the manor was £30. Richard and Elizabeth his wife had jointly held messuages and lands in Spotland.

²⁶ Two records remain; *Duchy of Lanc. Inq. p.m. iii*, 74, 80. In the former, Edmund Ashton is stated to have died 20 Mar. 1489-90; in the latter, on 29 Aug. 1488. The third part of the manor and lordship of Chadderton, with ten messuages, 200 acres of land, &c., were held of the king as Duke of Lancaster by the third part of the fourth part of a knight's fee, and were worth £20 a year clear. Sir John Traff-

ford sold the marriage of the heir to Edward Ashton, clerk, and other members of the family, for £46 13s. 4d. The inquisitions seem to have been taken, on the heir's coming of age, in 1500 and 1501, and to have been connected with the Traffords' mesne lordship and its appurtenant right of wardship and marriage. This mesne lordship having been ignored in the inquisition the king, as duke, put in a claim to the £46 13s. 4d.; to the 'utter undoing' of the said Edward Ashton and the others; *Duchy Plead. (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.)*, i, 47. The matter again came up in the cases of Thomas Radcliffe and Ralph Standish, in 1511 and 1512; *Duchy of Lanc. Inq. p.m. iv*, 96; *iii*, 2.

²⁷ The agreement for the marriage was made in 1491; Raines D. (Chet. Lib.), bde. 3, no. 47. On the division of the Harrington of Wolfage estates in 1517 James Ashton of Chadderton, son of Janet, received lands in Brixworth valued at £15 15s. a year, as his portion; Norris D. (B.M.).

²⁸ *Duchy of Lanc. Inq. p.m. viii*, 4; the rent of 12d. for sake fee is mentioned. Edward Ashton, brother of Edmund, had the manor of Shuttleworth for life.

James Ashton had special livery of his lands in 1545; *Dep. Keeper's Rep. xxxix*, App. 550. A detailed account of his possessions at the time is among the Raines D. (Chet. Lib.), bde. 4, no. 60.

²⁹ *Duchy of Lanc. Inq. p.m. ix*, 29. The provision for the son's wife is recorded in the previous inquisition.

Edmund son of James Ashton had special livery in 1550; *Dep. Keeper's Rep. xxxix*, App. 550.

³⁰ *Duchy of Lanc. Inq. p.m. xiv*, 66. A settlement of the manor, &c., was immediately made by James Ashton; *Pal. of Lanc. Feet of F. bde. 56*, m. 33.

The will of Edmund Ashton, dated 1583, is printed in Piccote, *Wills (Chet. Soc.)*, ii, 169, 170.

³¹ *Visit. of 1567 (Chet. Soc.)*, p. 20; this records the marriage of James Ashton.

³² *P.R.O. List*, 73.

³³ *Lancs. Inq. p.m. (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.)*, i, 224.

Annuities of £10 each were settled on Richard Ashton in 1569, and on Edmund Ashton in 1577, by their father Edmund and elder brother James; Raines D. (Chet. Lib.), bde. 4, no. 65, 66. The will of James Ashton is printed in Shaw, *Oldham*, 53. Richard Ashton died in May 1609, holding lands in Oldham; his wife Anne survived him, and his son Edmund was eight years of age; *Lancs. Inq. p.m. (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.)*, i, 145.

In addition to their lands the Ashtons had a lease of the tithes of Oldham chapelry, and presented to the curacy; *Misc. (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.)*, i, 112.

³⁴ *P.R.O. List*, 73. A settlement of his third part of the manor was made in 1624; *Pal. of Lanc. Feet of F. bde. 103*, no. 18. He paid £25 in 1631 on declining knighthood; *Misc. (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.)*, i, 216. An early will (1623) of his is printed in Shaw, *Oldham*, 63.

³⁵ *Roy. Comp. Papers (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.)*, i, 91; he had taken the National Covenant and the Negative Oath.

³⁶ James Ashton of Chadderton was buried at Oldham 1 May 1651. John Vicars in *Dagon Demolished* says about Mr. Ashton that he was 'once a desperate Malignant in the first war against the Parliament, but afterwards, having made his peace, taken the Engagement, and turned a great stickler for the present times, was made a justice of peace and became one of Mr. Constantine's greatest enemies,' sequestered his benefice (Oldham),

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seventeen years of age in 1664, when a pedigree was recorded.³⁷ The ultimate heir of the Chadderton estates was the youngest son, William, born about 1649, who was rector of Carlton in Lindrick and of Prestwich till his death in 1731. He sold the family inheritance, but left a considerable fortune, divided between his daughters, Katherine, wife of John Blackburne of Orford, and Dorothy, wife of Sir Darcy Lever of Alkrington.³⁸

Chadderton Hall, with its third part of the manor, was purchased in 1684 by Joshua Horton of Sowerby, Yorkshire, who came to reside here.³⁹ His son Thomas, sometime Governor of the Isle of Man, was succeeded by his son William, high sheriff in 1764,⁴⁰ when he was made a baronet. He died ten years later, his son Sir Watts Horton succeeding.⁴¹ On his death in 1811, Chadderton went to his brother, the Rev. Sir Thomas Horton,⁴² and on his death without sons to Sir Watts's only daughter, Harriet Susanna Anne, who married Major Charles Rees of Kilmaenllwyd, Carmarthenshire, and died in 1827, leaving a son Horton and two daughters. Major Rees or Rhys retained Chadderton till his death in 1852. It was sold to the Lees of Clarksfield family in 1865, and the trustees of the late Colonel Edward Brown Lees are the present owners. No manor is now claimed.⁴³



HORTON of Chadderton, baronet. *Gules a lion rampant argent charged on the breast with a boar's head coupé azure, a bordure engrailed of the second.*



CHADDERTON HALL

banished him, and otherwise persecuted him. His death, by 'such a languishing sickness as made him daily pine away, so as no means or physic could help him,' was regarded as a divine punishment, and it happened the day before or day after Mr. Constantine was to have appeared before him, as justice; *Local Gleanings Lancs. and Ches.* ii, 17.

³⁷ Dugdale, *Visit.* (Chet. Soc.), 18.

Edmund Ashton is said to have been killed in a duel 17 March 1664-5; he was gentleman of the bedchamber to the Duke of York, and lieutenant-colonel in the Horse Guards; Butterworth, *Oldham*, 157. The story must be false, for Edmund Ashton, having attained his majority, appeared by proxy at Ightenhill manor court on 15 April 1665, to be admitted to lands at Padiham previously held by his grandfather Edmund; Raines D. (Chet. Lib.), bde. 8. The age, as recorded by Dugdale, may therefore be some years too little.

Edmund Ashton was still living in 1684, when he concurred with the other lords of the manor in granting leave 'to dig, delve, search for and get coals, to sink, tunnel, and make pit shafts,' &c., on the

North Moor, on the west side of the Mere Ditch; Shaw, *Oldham*, 188.

³⁸ See the account of him among the rectors of Prestwich. By his will (1728) he made provision for the payment of £4,000, the marriage portion of his daughter Dorothy; and by a codicil (1731) left to her and her son Ashton Lever, and the heirs male, his chapel in Prestwich Church.

³⁹ These particulars are from the Horton pedigrees in Burke's *Commoners*, i, 284, with later particulars from *Landed Gentry*, under De Ferry of Kilmaenllwyd; G.E.C. *Complete Baronetage*, v, 128; Shaw, *Oldham*, 193, &c., and Canon Raines in *Notitia Cestr.* (1849), ii, 114.

William, son of Joshua Horton of Chadderton and Mary his wife, was baptized at Oldham 12 October 1686. Other children were also baptized there, showing that the family resided.

⁴⁰ P.R.O. *List*, 74.

⁴¹ He was high sheriff in 1775. There was a recovery of the third part of the manor in 1778, Sir Watts Horton being tenant; Pal. of Lanc. Plea R. 628, m. 7a. Sir Watts Horton's conciliatory conduct at a time of bread riots in Oldham is

described in E. Butterworth's *Hist. of Oldham* (ed. 1856), 138. Chadderton Hall⁴⁴ is a brick-built 18th-century house with stone dressings, the principal front facing south with projecting end wings, connected on the ground story by a well-designed classic screen of coupled Tuscan columns carrying entablature and balustrade. The design is one of some merit, and together with the stables and other outbuildings which are built at right angles on either side, forms a good architectural whole. The roofs have flat hips and are covered with green slates, and the window bars and the sashes remain. The interior contains a good staircase with rich renaissance detail. Of the appearance of the former old hall nothing is known, but the house was probably rebuilt in its present form about the middle of the 18th century by Sir William Horton.⁴⁵ The grounds are now used as pleasure grounds.

Of the third part of the manor held by the Standishes of Standish little can be said. The family do not seem to have resided here, but the share is duly mentioned in inquisitions⁴⁶ and settle-

described in E. Butterworth's *Hist. of Oldham* (ed. 1856), 138.

⁴² Sir Thomas was the owner in 1817; Butterworth, *Oldham*, 155. He died in 1821.

A large number of letters and papers of the Ashton and Horton families came into the possession of Canon Raines, and are now in the Chetham Library, vols. xxxii-xxxv of his MSS.

⁴³ Information of Mr. Thomas Heywood.

⁴⁴ A view of the hall (1794), with a short description, is given in Dr. Aikin's *Country Round Manch.* 241.

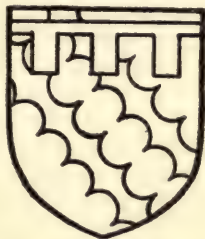
⁴⁵ Raines' notes to Gastrell's *Notitia* (Chet. Soc. xix).

⁴⁶ *Lancs. Inq. p.m.* (Chet. Soc.), ii, 126; Duchy of Lanc. Inq. p.m. iii, 76; after the death of Margery, wife of Ralph Standish and then of Thomas Radcliffe, one of the daughters and heirs of Richard Radcliffe of Chadderton, who died in May 1476 seized of the third part of the manor and various lands and messuages held of the king as of his duchy of Lancaster by knight's service, Sir Alexander her son was heir. Sir Alexander died in 1507 holding the same third by the same ser-

ments down to 1660.⁴⁶ Two years later it was sold, with Royton, to Thomas Percival and his brother Richard, and descended with Royton for some time.⁴⁷

In 1787 Thomas Butterworth Bayley of the Hope in Pendleton was one of the chief landowners.⁴⁸

FOXDETON,⁴⁹ the family seat, gives a name to the third of the manor which belonged to Elizabeth Radclyffe and descended to her son William, who died in 1507, leaving as heir his son Thomas, then six months old. In this case also the wardship was claimed by the Traffords in right of their mesne



RADCLYFFE of Foxdenton. *Argent two bends engrailed sable, a label of three points gules.*

vice; Duchy of Lanc. Inq. p.m. iii, 25. Ralph his son and heir in 1512 came forward to correct the finding of the inquest, stating the descent of the manor and establishing the Traffords' mesne lordship; *ibid.* iii, 2.

In 1540 the king granted the Earl of Derby an annual rent of 20 marks issuing from the third part of the manor of Chadderton, together with the wardship and marriage of Ralph son and heir of Alexander Standish, a minor; Duchy of Lanc. Misc. Bks. xxii, 161 d. Edward Standish in 1556 sought a division of 100 acres of land, &c., which he held in Chadderton jointly with Thomas Radcliffe of Foxdenton; Pal. of Lanc. Plea R. 202, m. 13. About the same time Mary Standish, widow, complained of the interruption of a road between Chadderton and Alkrington; *Ducatus Lanc.* (Rec. Com.), i, 305. Edward Standish, who died in 1610, held the third part of the manor; *Lancs. Inq. p.m.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), i, 185. In this and other inquisitions the service is erroneously stated as the third part of a knight's fee, instead of the third part of a fourth part.

⁴⁶ E.g. Pal. of Lanc. Feet of F. bde. 75, no. 11 (1610); bde. 81, no. 8 (1613); bde. 121, no. 5 (1632); bde. 165, no. 8 (1660).

⁴⁷ Shaw, *Oldham*, 157. The Standish inheritance seems to have been sold piecemeal. In 1668 Edward Standish sold land, &c., to various tenants; *ibid.* 169.

⁴⁸ Land Tax returns at Preston. The other principal contributors were Sir Watts Horton and Mr. Radclyffe's executors.

⁴⁹ As above stated, Gilbert de Barton sold his right in Chadderton to the superior lord, Edmund de Lacy, about 1255. Foxdenton, however—or Denton simply, as it was anciently called—was not included in this sale, but transferred to the Grelleys, lords of Manchester, and held of them by the Chadderton family—e.g. by Geoffrey de Chadderton in 1282, and by William de Chadderton in 1320, as 1 oxgang, by the rent of 1d.; *Lancs. Inq. and Extents*, i, 247; *Mamecestre*, 279. From this time Foxdenton seems to have merged again in Chadderton, its connexion with Manchester being forgotten.

Gilbert de Barton granted to the canons of Cockersand land in Denton, with the usual easements in the vills of Chadderton and Denton, and acquittance of pannage for their pigs in the wood of Lyme. The bounds recited mention Ridley Syke, Blacklache, the Church land, Hazelhead Brook, and Ripley Brook; *Cockersand Chartul.* (Chet. Soc.), ii, 732.

manor.⁵⁰ In 1567 Thomas Radcliffe made a settlement of his manor, and dying in the same year was succeeded by his son William, then forty years of age.⁵¹ William, who forfeited the manor to his brother John in ten years,⁵² died in 1590 without issue. John, dying in 1587, was succeeded by his daughter Margaret,⁵³ who at her death in 1590 was also the heir of her uncle William; she married Richard Radcliffe of Newcroft, a younger son of Sir William Radcliffe of Ordsall, and left as heir a son William, nine years of age in 1591.⁵⁴ He was living in 1642, when he made a settlement of his estates.⁵⁵ He left three sons, one of whom, Sir William, fought on the king's side in the Civil War, and was knighted.⁵⁶ He was with Lord Hopton's force when it capitulated at Truro in 1646.⁵⁷ He died soon afterwards, and was succeeded by his brother Alexander,⁵⁸ but the ultimate heirs were two daughters—Mary, who

⁵⁰ *Lancs. Inq. p.m.* (Chet. Soc.), ii, 139; Duchy of Lanc. Inq. p.m. iii, 36; iv, 96. From this it appears that Elizabeth had married again, and in 1497 gave John Duncalf for life a messuage and 40 acres in Chadderton. William Radcliffe's feoffment, made shortly before his death, is recited, making provision for his various children. Two of these, John and Roger, were illegitimate, and their lands reverted at their death in 1527 and 1528 to Thomas Radcliffe; Duchy of Lanc. Inq. p.m. vi, 60.

The inquisition after William Radcliffe is also recorded in Pal. of Lanc. Plea R. 113, m. 19, in connexion with the Trafford claim to the wardship of the heir. At m. 18 is the Standish case.

Margery Kirke, widow of William Radcliffe of Chadderton, died in 1521, Thomas the son and heir being then described as over sixteen years of age; she had held eight messuages, 40 acres of land, &c., in the township; Duchy of Lanc. Inq. p.m. v, 38.

⁵¹ *Ibid.* xi, 25. The settlement recited in it granted the manor, after the death of Thomas, to the use of his eldest son William for sixty years, then to the use of any wife of William for her life, then to any son of the said William and his heirs male; then to the second and third sons of Thomas in the same way. William was to 'leave and forbear the company of Margery Hawke, with whom he was suspected to lead an ungodly life,' and within ten years marry 'such gentlewoman or other woman being of honest name and fame,' approved by the trustees; see *ibid.* iii, 13.

The will of Thomas Radcliffe is printed in Piccope's *Wills* (Chet. Soc.), ii, 163-4; his sons William and John, and daughters Katherine, Ellen, Margaret, Elizabeth, and Anne, are named, and three bastard children. He desired to be buried in Oldham Church, near his wife.

⁵² In accordance with the father's settlement.

⁵³ Inq. p.m. last cited, and xiv, 54. John Radcliffe, who was 'of Gisburn,' in 1580, in consideration of the marriage between his daughter Margaret and Richard Radcliffe of Newcroft, gave his manor and lands in Chadderton to trustees for their benefit. John had various disputes with his elder brother William (see *Ducatus Lanc.* [Rec. Com.], iii, 177, 512), who in 1589 laid claim to the estate, but seems to have been defeated. William made settlements of the third part of the manor, with various mes-

suages, water-mills and dove-cotes, lands, &c., in Chadderton, Foxdenton, Oldham, and Glodwick, in 1587 and 1588; Pal. of Lanc. Feet of F. bde. 49, m. 54; 50, m. 118.

William Radcliffe died 30 June 1590, holding two messuages, &c., in Glodwick, his heir being his niece Margaret; *ibid.* xv, m. 23. His nuncupative will is printed in *Wills* (Chet. Soc. new ser.), i, 108. He left his goods to his wife and his son Walter.

⁵⁴ Duchy of Lanc. Inq. p.m. xv, 25. She died 28 November 1590. There were a younger son and six daughters, of whom one grew up. Her husband died 13 January 1602-3, and was buried in Flixton Church, where there is a brass.

⁵⁵ He granted to Sir Alexander Radcliffe of Ordsall and other trustees his capital messuage of Denton and the manor of Chadderton, with the demesne lands; the coal mines at Huntclough; part of a water corn-mill and two kilns, and various tenements; the capital messuage called Newcroft in Urmston; for the use of his son and heir Robert, with remainder to younger sons William and Alexander. The father reserved to himself rooms at Foxdenton and an annuity of £40, and made provision for his younger sons and his daughters—Margaret, Elizabeth, Susan, and Mary; Shaw, *Oldham*, 93.

⁵⁶ He was made a knight in the field, at the pursuit of Essex's army, 1 September, 1644; Metcalfe, *Knights*, 202.

⁵⁷ He had a colonel's commission from Prince Charles. After the surrender he had leave to return to Foxdenton, Lord Fairfax reporting that he was 'very civil and fair in his demeanour,' the country commending him 'for preserving them often from the injuries which they were subject unto by the unruly soldiers.' His estates were, of course, sequestered by the Parliament, but he compounded, stating the annual value of the estates as £235, and claiming a mitigation of the fine on the ground that he was neither 'a papist in arms,' nor a participant in the 'rebellion of Ireland.' He made his will in 1647, desiring to be buried in Oldham Church, and making provision for his wife Elizabeth, daughter of Sir Rowland Egerton of Farthinghoe; Shaw, *Oldham* 96-8, 103-8. Dame Elizabeth's will, dated 1650, is printed *ibid.* 116, 117.

⁵⁸ In 1652 a settlement was made by Alexander Radcliffe and Mary his wife; Pal. of Lanc. Feet of F. bde. 152, m. 65. The remainders, after his issue, were to

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married John Byrom of Salford, and Susan, who married Alexander Potter of Manchester.⁶⁰ These ladies bequeathed Foxdenton to their distant cousin Alexander Radcliffe, great-great-grandson of the Sir William Radcliffe of Ordsall from whom they were descended.⁶⁰

In this branch of the family—the spelling Radclyffe being used—Foxdenton has descended to the present time.⁶¹ Alexander was duly succeeded by his son, grandson, and great-grandson, each named Robert. The last of them, dying in 1854, had a son and heir Charles James, who was in 1882 followed by his son Mr. Charles James Radclyffe, born in 1839, of Fox-

denton and Hyde near Wareham.⁶² Foxdenton ceased to be the family residence about a century ago.⁶³

The hall is a plain classic building with projecting end wings and steep hipped roofs, erected probably about the beginning of the 18th century. The first hall was described as a 'noble and lofty edifice of the 16th century fronting northerly, with two wings, overlooking a beautiful lawn.'^{63a} Of this house, however, nothing remains, and a stone under the steps of the present hall on the north side, which bears the date 1620, together with the initials W.R. and the Radcliffe coat of arms, seems to indicate a rebuilding of some portion of the house at the date mentioned.^{63b}



FOXDENTON HALL

Susan, then wife of Alexander Potter of Foxdenton, to Mary Radcliffe, to Sir Alexander Radcliffe of Ordsall, &c.; Raines D. (Chet. Lib.), 4/72. See also *Cal. Com. for Compounding*, ii, 1445. He died about eighteen months after this, for his widow Mary joined in a mortgage of Foxdenton in 1654; Shaw, *Oldham*, 146. By this time his sister Mary was the wife of John Byrom of Salford.

A fine respecting a third part of the manors of Glodwick, Oldham, and Chaderton in 1662 may relate to the Radcliffe inheritance; the deforciantes were John Deane and Magdalen his wife; Pal. of Lanc. Feet of F. bdl. 168, m. 118.

⁶⁰ Major Byrom and Dr. Potter were in possession in 1667, when the manor court allowed John Hall, with their permission, to build a cottage, which might stand 'so long as those who live therein do not beg, but labour for their living'; Shaw, op. cit. 169.

⁶⁰ The Potters resided at Foxdenton. In 1681 Alexander Potter was assessed there; *ibid.* 186. He and his wife made a demise of their moiety of Foxdenton in

1684; *ibid.* 192. He died in 1691, aged eighty-eight, and was buried in Oldham Church; *ibid.* 205. His widow was buried there 25 January 1696-7; *ibid.* 218.

In 1692 there was a recovery of Mary Byrom's moiety of the manor; Pal. of Lanc. Feet of F. bdl. 228, m. 97.

On 11 May 1693 Susan Potter of Foxdenton and Mary Byrom of Salford, widows, made their wills, devising Foxdenton and other estates to trustees, for the benefit of John, grandson of Sir Alexander Radcliffe of Ordsall, and then of Alexander, elder son of Captain Robert Radcliffe, late of Withenshaw—he was killed in a duel in 1686; Ormerod, *Ches.* (ed. Helsby), iii, 617—and his sons in tail male; then of Edward, younger son of Robert, &c.; Shaw, *Oldham*, pp. 210-13. Alexander was at this time about fifteen years of age.

Abstracts of a number of Radclyffe leases from 1707 onwards are printed in Shaw's *Oldham*, pp. 243, &c. On 6 January 1725-6 Alexander Radclyffe of Foxdenton leased to Edmund Radclyffe the messuage called Cowper's Tenement, wood and timber and mines of coal

and stone being excepted, but with reasonable hedgebote, &c. The rent was to be 21s., one day's ploughing (or 4s. 6d.), the carriage of twenty baskets of coal to Foxdenton Hall (or 2s. 6d.), one day leading dung (or 2s. 6d.), four days' 'shearing' in harvest (or 2s. 8d.), three days' harrowing (or 3s.), two fat hens (or 1s. 4d.), at death the best beast; two young oaks or ashes were to be planted each year; *ibid.* 284. A 'fifteenth' levied in 1720 is printed on p. 272.

A settlement was made in 1730 by Alexander Radclyffe, Elizabeth his wife, and Robert Radclyffe; Pal. of Lanc. Feet of F. bdl. 305, m. 97.

⁶¹ Robert Radclyffe paid a duchy rent of 2s. in 1779; Duchy of Lanc. Rentals, 14/25 m.

⁶² For pedigrees see Burke's *Commoners*, iv, 399; *Landed Gentry*; Foster, *Lancs. Pedigrees*.

⁶³ Butterworth says 'some time since,' writing in 1817; *Oldham*, 146.

^{63a} *Lancs. and Ches. Antiq. Soc.* xi, 162.

^{63b} *Ibid.* The stone was probably a doorhead.

The sash windows retain their wooden bars, and the elevation has a certain dignity now much impaired by neglect and change of surroundings. A gatehouse, named in the year 1651, has now disappeared.^{63c}

Manor courts were held in the 17th century by the three lords jointly, as it would appear.⁶⁴

The church at Prestwich had land in Chadderton of the gift of Gilbert de Barton; a moiety of it was granted by Robert the rector to Richard son of Gilbert de Scolecroft.⁶⁵ The Hospitallers also had land in the township,⁶⁶ and grants to Stanlaw and Cocker-sand Abbey will be found recorded in the notes.⁶⁷

Apart from the lords of the manor there were not any freeholders of note before the 17th century.⁶⁸ About that time the Scholes family came into notice; they held land in Okeden or Ogden of the lords of the manor.⁶⁹ The mills are mentioned in several ancient deeds.⁷⁰ Matthew Fold is mentioned in 1691.⁷¹

^{63c} Raines' notes to Gastrell's *Notitia* (Chet. Soc. xix). Raines notes in 1849 that numerous family portraits still hung in the house.

⁶⁴ *Oldham Notes and Gleanings*, ii, 223, from Raines MSS. xxiv, 107.

⁶⁵ Hornby Chapel D. The bounds described began on the east side of the springs, and mention the land of Robert de Hulton, the lache under Lonesedge, Romesdene, Hennerode; Ytheyc; and Tinte Carr. The rent payable was 1d.

By another grant the parson of Prestwich gave to Robert son of Gilbert de Scolecroft and his heirs by Amaria daughter of Peter de Hopwood all the land in Chadderton granted in pure alms by Gilbert de Barton to God and B. Mary of Prestwich at a rent of 2s.; Booker, *Prestwich*, 250; Agecroft D. 5.

Richard de Scolecroft, son of Gilbert son of Wilet, granted to his son Alan the half of the land he had purchased from Sir Gilbert de Barton, and to hold as freely as the grantor had held it of the rectors of Prestwich; Booker, op. cit. 252. The bounds of this land are identical with those of the first-mentioned deed, so that Gilbert de Barton, after selling to the Scolecrofts, had granted his lordship to Prestwich Church. Then Alan son of Richard de Scolecroft gave this land to his brother Robert; ibid. 251.

William de Scolecroft in 1415 demised his lands in Chadderton to Robert de Buckley for five years; Raines D. (Chet. Lib.), 3/35.

The family took their name from a place in the north-west corner of the township, now Scowcroft.

In 1304 Master William de Marklan, the rector, claimed two messuages, 31 acres of land, and 7 acres of meadow in Chadderton and Radcliffe as the free alms pertaining to the church of Prestwich; the defendants, who held it as a lay fee, were Richard de Radcliffe, Geoffrey de Chadderton, Margery de Scolecroft, and Adam her son; De Banco R. 149, m. 255; R. 158, m. 158 d. &c. Adam de Scolecroft and Adam son of Amaria contributed to the subsidy of 1332; *Exch. Lay Subs.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), 30.

⁶⁶ It is mentioned in the list of their lands in 1292; *Plac. de Quo War.* (Rec. Com.), 375.

⁶⁷ These monastic lands are probably the lands in Chadderton held by Thomas Holt of Gristehurst in 1560; Duchy of Lanc. Inq. p.m. xi, 46.

⁶⁸ In 1537 the free tenants numbered 12, 13, and 19 in the Standish, Ashton, and Radcliffe lordships; Shaw, *Oldham*, 13.

An assessment for the fifteenth in 1577 is printed in *Oldham Notes and Gleanings*, iii, 61-3, from the Raines MSS. xxiv, 275. It gives the names of the contributors ranged under the three lordships.

⁶⁹ 'For goods' James Scholes contributed to the subsidy of 1526; Shaw, *Oldham*, 16. William Scholes contributed to that of 1541; *Misc.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), i, 145. Various members of the family holding under the Standish part of the manor paid to the fifteenth in 1577, John Scholes contributing as a 'mesne tenant'; Shaw, 29. John Scholes died in 1589, holding a messuage and 23 acres called Okeden of the lords of the manor in socage by a rent of 6d., leaving a son and heir John, aged over thirty-eight in 1619; *Lancs. Inq. p.m.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), ii, 147. This John Scholes died in 1630, holding the same lands, and leaving as heir his son William, over twenty-three years of age; Towneley MS. C. 8, 13 (Chet. Lib.), p. 1081-2. Robert Scholes contributed to the subsidy in 1622; *Misc.* (ut sup.), i, 157. Richard and William Scholes were two of the four presenting the names of those liable to be assessed in Chadderton in 1641; Shaw's *Assessment*, 14; see also Shaw, *Oldham*, 153, 155, 171. 'The late Mr. S. Scholes's estate, near Earnshaw Lane,' which separates Moston and Chadderton, is mentioned in Butterworth's *Oldham* (1817), 165.

James Scholes, 1671, issued a half-penny token; *Lanc. and Ches. Antiq. Soc.* v, 75.

With regard to their holding it may be noted that Richard de Okeden paid 2s. 2d. to the subsidy of 1332; *Exch. Lay Subs.* 30.

The other 'mesne tenants' in 1577 were the Mill, James Whitehead, Henry

John Ashton of Cowhill was one of the victims of the 'Peterloo Massacre' in 1819.⁷²

There are several places of worship in Chadderton.⁷³ The earliest in connexion with the Established Church—St. Margaret's, Hollinwood—is now in Oldham. It was followed by St. Matthew's, 1848-57; the Crown and the Bishop of Manchester present alternately.⁷⁴ Then came Christ Church in 1870, the patronage being vested in five trustees; it has a chapel of ease called Emmanuel, and some mission rooms.⁷⁵ St. Luke's, to which the Bishop of Manchester collates, was built in 1888: the district was taken from St. Matthew's.

The Wesleyan Methodists have churches at Chadderton Fold and Middleton Junction, and a preaching room at Cowhill.

The Baptists have a chapel at Mills Hill, on the border of Tonge.

Brearley, and Francis Buckley. The Whiteheads and Buckleys occur in other lists. John son and heir of Richard Chadderton in 1507 demised his tenement called Colesha (Coldshaw) for twenty-one years to Nicholas Whitehead and Margery his wife; Raines D. (Chet. Lib.), 4/48.

Stockfield (Hibbert) and Birchen Bower (Robinson) are mentioned in 1817 as recently seats of the owners; Butterworth, op. cit. 162, 163.

⁷⁰ In 1448 John Huntington, warden of Manchester, was arbitrator in a dispute between the rector of Prestwich and the lords of Chadderton as to tithe of the mill. Elizabeth daughter of Richard de Radcliffe, one of the co-heirs, was not then of full age; Raines D. (Chet. Lib.), 3/40.

Twenty years later an agreement was made for the leasing of the 'old mill'; Edmund Ashton, Thomas Radcliffe, and Thomas Duncalf also agreed to make no new mill during the term, but would require their tenants to grind at the old one, as before; ibid. 3/42.

The three lords in 1581 ordered their tenants to grind at the Chadderton mill and not elsewhere, under a fine of 6s. 8d.; Shaw, *Oldham*, 31. Further orders were made in 1599 and 1617; *Oldham Notes and Gleanings*, ii, 163 (from Raines MSS. in Chet. Lib. xxiv, 58).

Edmund Ashton in 1669 leased to James Wilson of Poppythorn in Prestwich, clothier, the fulling mill in Chadderton; Raines D.

⁷¹ James Taylor was the owner or lessee; Shaw, *Oldham*, 209.

⁷² E. Butterworth, *Oldham* (ed. 1856), 170.

⁷³ The 'curate at Chadderton,' mentioned in 1622, was perhaps the curate of Oldham; later curates lived in Chadderton; *Misc.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), i, 67. The name of the place may be wrongly given.

⁷⁴ *Lond. Gaz.* 22 Oct. 1844. The original building of 1848—a temporary one, of wood—was burnt down; the present church was consecrated 9 November 1857.

⁷⁵ For district assigned, ibid. 28 Mar. 1871.



BURY

BURY
ELTON
HEAP

WALMERSLEY - WITH
SHUTTLEWORTH
TOTTINGTON HIGHER END

TOTTINGTON LOWER END
MUSBURY
COWPE, LENCH, NEWHALL
HEY, HALL CARR

The parish of Bury, of which two townships—Cowpe-Lench and Musbury—lie in the hundred of Blackburn, has an area of 24,915 acres. The Irwell flows southward through the middle of it, and it is bounded by hills on the east, west, and north, those in Tottington attaining elevations of 1,200 to 1,500 ft. The Carboniferous Rocks occur throughout the parish. At Bury, Elton, and Redvales the Coal Measures cover a considerable area; elsewhere the Lower Coal Measures occur, except between Walmersley and Birtle, where the Millstone Grit is thrown up by faults.

Anciently there were only two manors or townships in the parish, but these were later subdivided, the old 'hamlets' becoming townships; and in recent years great changes have been made in the boundaries to accord with the changes that have taken place in the distribution of the population and the resulting progress of local government. To the county lay of 1624 Bury and its hamlets paid £6 16s. 6d., and Tottington £3 8s. 3d., when the hundred contributed £100.¹ To the fifteenth the payments respectively were £2 3s. 4d. and 15s. 8d. out of £41 14s. 4d.²

There is evidence in the history of the town of Bury of the disturbances raised by Adam Banastre in the time of Edward II, Henry de Bury being killed by his emissaries. Many people of the district no doubt accompanied the Pilkingtons, whose fortified dwelling stood in the town, to the foreign wars, as well as to the fatal fields of Bosworth and Stoke. There were also domestic wars nearer home; for about 1447 a number of the people of Butterworth and Spotland, having gathered a company of sixty 'malefactors,' came to Bury arrayed in manner of war, with a white banner carried before them; they then marched off to Hundersfield in Rochdale, where the demonstration ended in the death of one Roger Smethley. It seems to have been intended to intimidate the Holts.³

The Reformation appears to have passed by without any resistance or opposition, the people here, as in the neighbourhood, soon becoming favourable to the Puritans. On a certain Sunday of July 1588 the town was disturbed by a number of Oldham men, who, in time of divine service, made 'foul disorders' by galloping horses in the street, shouting and piping; 'a lamentable spectacle in the place of preaching ministry,' as the narrator remarks.⁴ About the same time the mining industry comes into notice, by a dispute concerning 'mines, delphs, and pits of coal.'⁵

The making of woollen yarn had been mentioned by Leland fifty years earlier.

In the Civil War the lord of Bury took the lead on the king's side, and the rector was also a Royalist, while John Greenhalgh and Edward Nuttall distinguished themselves in the same cause. A conflict is reported to have taken place close to the town of Bury on 14 August 1648.⁶ The restoration of Charles II was cordially welcomed in Bury,⁷ but the revolution appears to have been acquiesced in as readily, and nothing is known of any Jacobite sympathizers in the risings of the 18th century.

In 1798, during the French War, a volunteer force was created under the name of the Loyal Bury Volunteer Association.⁸ A rifle corps was formed in 1859, and the town is now the head quarters of the 5th Battalion Lancashire Fusiliers (Territorials).⁹

Bury has had its share in the great development of Lancashire manufactures, and here, as elsewhere, distress in times of bad trade produced disturbances, of which the most notable examples were the riots of 1826,¹⁰ and the 'plug drawing' of 1842. The agricultural land in the parish is now apportioned thus: Arable land, 1,315 acres; permanent grass, 12,691; woods and plantations, 61. The following are details:—

	Arable acres	Grass acres	Woods, &c. acres
Bury	180	1,248	8
Elton	143	1,723	14
Heywood	903	1,435	—
Tottington	26	2,032	—
Ramsbottom	7	3,533	39
Walmersley	56	2,720	—

The worthies of the parish include Henry Dunster, 1609–59, the first president of Harvard; Captain William Kay, who took part in the defence of Lathom House in 1644, and died a prisoner for debt in Lancaster Castle in 1670; Edward Rothwell, a Non-conformist divine, who ministered in Bury, Holcombe, and the district, and died in 1731; John Warburton, 1682–1759, book collector; Josiah Nuttall, naturalist, 1771–1849; John Ainsworth, local historian, born near Chamber Hall, 1777–1858;^{10a} James Bateman, botanist, born at Redvales in 1811, and died at Worthing in 1897; Sir James Phillips Kay-Shuttleworth, bart., a founder of the system of school inspection, 1804–77; his brother, Sir Edward Ebenezer Kay, judge, 1822–97; Sir John Holker, politician

¹ Gregson, *Fragments* (ed. Harland), 22.

² *Ibid.* 18.

³ Pal. of Lanc. Plea. R. 11, m. 32.

⁴ Hist. MSS. Com. Rep. xiv, App. iv, 572.

⁵ *Ducatus Lanc.* (Rec. Com.), iii, 258.

⁶ B. T. Barton, *Hist. of Bury*, 35. The writer admits that the story is merely traditional; the 'castle' is said to have been finally destroyed at this time. It was said that for many successive years all the grain grown on the place of con-

flict in Bury Lane (now Bolton Street) was 'streaked as if with gore,' due to the blood shed there. Butcher Lane is said to have been named from a butcher who, being pursued in the fighting, made his horse leap across both the hedges bordering the lane; *ibid.* 44. The name, however, occurs earlier.

It may be added that the *History* quoted was a compilation from earlier writers and was issued in 1874. The author died in 1896.

⁷ For an account of the festivities see *Manch. Guardian Local N. and Q.* no. 577, quoting *Parl. Intelligence*, no. 27 (2 July 1660).

⁸ Barton, *Bury*, 71.

⁹ There is a full account of the local force in T. H. Hayhurst, *Bury and Rossendale Volunteer Movement* (Bury 1887).

¹⁰ Barton, *op. cit.* 163.

^{10a} *Bury Library Quart.* July 1906, p. 55.

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and judge, 1828-82; and Sir William Hardman, 1828-90, sometime Recorder of Kingston and editor of the *Morning Post*. Lives of most of them will be found in the *Dictionary of National Biography*. Others are noticed in the different townships.

The church of *ST. MARY* stands in *CHURCH* the centre of the town, to the north of the market-place, on an ancient site, but is itself a modern building erected entirely in the 19th century. A church is said to have been built here in the 13th century, and restored or rebuilt about 1535; but it had fallen into a state of decay by the middle of the 18th century, and in the year 1773 was taken down, with the exception of the tower, and a new building erected between the years 1773 and 1780. Old prints show this church to have been rectangular in plan, with a square projecting chancel, built in pseudo-Gothic style, with two tiers of pointed windows, straight parapets, and drafted angle quoins. The tower, which is described in 1829 as an 'old small semi-spire steeple' detracting from the appearance of the church,¹¹ having been damaged in 1839, was taken down four years later, and the present tower and broach spire built in 1844-5. The 18th-century church stood till 1870, when the chancel was taken down and the present one begun; but in the course of reconstruction the whole of the old building was declared to be unsafe, and was pulled down in 1872. The present handsome church was erected between 1870 and 1876, Mr. F. S. Crowther being the architect, and consists of an apsidal chancel 56 ft. 6 in. long by 27 ft. 8 in. wide, with south chapel and north vestry, nave 84 ft. 6 in. long by 30 ft. wide, with north and south aisles and south porch. The tower of 1845 was retained at the west end, and is joined on to the new church by a wide narthex extending the whole width of the nave and aisles, to which it is open by three arches. The building is of stone, in the style of the 14th century, with lofty clearstory and roof, quite overshadowing the tower and spire, which, though too big for the church as it was before 1870, is now too small. The interior is partly lined with bricks, and is a fine example of modern Gothic work. The height of the chancel is

63 ft., and that of the nave 76 ft. The fittings, like the structure, are all modern, and there is nothing about the building of antiquarian interest.

The churchyard was enlarged in 1843, and closed for interments in 1855. It is paved with headstones laid flat, and has an 18th-century pedestal sundial on the north side.

There is a ring of eight bells, six by A. Rudhall of Gloucester, 1722, recast by Mears & Stainbank, and the two trebles by Taylor & Co., of Loughborough, 1892.^{11a}

The plate is all modern, and consists of two chalices of 1860-1, two patens of the same date, and a silver bread-box given by Archdeacon Blackburne. One of the patens is inscribed 'The gift of Elizabeth Plant, relict of Thomas Plant, to the church of Bury,' and the other 'The gift of Mary Hutchinson, relict of William Hutchinson, to the church of Bury.' There are also two large plated flagons given by the Rev. James Bankes (rector 1710-43), and a plated paten.

The registers date from 1590 (baptisms 1590, marriages and burials 1591), and have been printed, up to 1698, by the Lancashire Parish Register Society.¹²

There is a clock and chimes in the tower, given in 1903 by Mr. Henry Whitehead, High Sheriff of Lancashire.

The church of Bury is known to *ADVOWSON* have existed at the end of the 12th century. The patronage has always descended with the lordship of the manor,¹³ the Earl of Derby now having the right of presentation. In 1291 the income was taxed at 20 marks,¹⁴ but fifty years later the ninth of sheaves, wool, &c., was only worth half that sum, Bury proper contributing 102*s.* 2*d.*, and the moiety of Tottington 31*s.* 2*d.*¹⁵ The gross value of the rectory in 1534 was returned as £30 6*s.* 8*d.*¹⁶ Nearly two centuries later it was given as about £250.¹⁷ A large amount of the glebe lying in the town of Bury, the rector was empowered in 1764 to grant building leases for ninety-nine years.¹⁸ This greatly enhanced the rector's income, which in 1834 was nearly £2,000, and afterwards increased. It is now given as £2,000.¹⁹

The following is a list of the rectors:—

Institution	Name	Patron	Cause of Vacancy
oc. 1189 . . .	Peter the Chaplain ²⁰	—	—
bef. 1226 . . .	Henry ²¹	—	—

¹¹ Jas. Butterworth, *Bury*, 1829.

The church of 1775 was thus described in 1824: 'The new building is spacious and handsome, but the old small half-spire steeple detracts from its appearance and ought to have shared the fate of the body of the church;' Baines, *Lancs. Dir.* i, 577. Canon Raines on the other hand says: 'In 1773 the nave of the church was rebuilt in a debased style, and in 1843 the fine old tower and spire were with difficulty razed and rebuilt;' *Notitia Cestr.* (Chet. Soc.), ii, 28.

An organ was first placed in the church in 1752; Barton, *Bury*, 298. This work has a view of the church of 1775 as frontispiece.

^{11a} These are recastings of two bells added to the original ring of six in 1843. The sixth and seventh bells are inscribed with the initials of A. Rudhall, the date 1722, and the names of the churchwardens of that year.

¹² Vols. i, x, and xxiv, transcribed by Rev. W. J. Löwenberg and Henry

Brierley, the third vol. by Archibald Sparke.

¹³ It was so in 1287; De Banco R. 67, m. 56. Sir Roger de Pilkington claimed the presentation in 1367, Henry son of Margery de Radcliffe being defendant; De Banco R. 429, m. 127 d.

¹⁴ *Pope Nich. Tax.* (Rec. Com.), 249.

¹⁵ *Inq. Non.* (Rec. Com.), 39. The other half of Tottington paid to Prestwich.

¹⁶ *Valor Eccl.* (Rec. Com.), v, 226. The glebe lands returned 48*s.* 4*d.*; tithe of grain and hay, £15; of lambs and wool, £4; of calves, &c., 20*s.*; Easter roll, offerings, &c., £7 11*s.* 8*d.*; mortuaries, 6*s.* 8*d.* The Archdeacon of Chester received 15*s.* 4*d.* for synodals and procurations.

¹⁷ Bishop Gastrell, *Notitia Cestr.* (Chet. Soc.), ii, 27, 28. In 1673 there were five wardens and five assistants; about 1718 there were six churchwardens, viz. one for Bury, chosen by the rector; one each for Heap, Walmersley, and Elton, chosen by the rector out of three pre-

sented for each of these hamlets; and two named by Tottington. In 1552 there were four churchwardens for Bury, and a warden for each of the three chapels-of-ease; in 1850 it was the custom for the rector to nominate a warden and sidesman without any parish meeting, the other townships sending in three names, of which the rector chose two; *Cb. Gds.* (Chet. Soc.), 45, 47.

¹⁸ Raines, op. cit. ii, 28; the Act is printed in Barton, *Bury*, 149. In 1824 half the town was said to be glebe, the other half being the Earl of Derby's leasehold.

¹⁹ *Manch. Dioc. Dir.* 1910.

²⁰ He was one of the witnesses to the foundation charter of Burscough Priory; as his name stands third, after the Archdeacon and the Prior of Norton, he could not have been a mere stipendiary chaplain; Farrer, *Lancs. Pipe R.* 350.

²¹ Henry, parson of Bury, attested a grant by Roger de Montbegon before 1226; Hopwood D.

SALFORD HUNDRED

BURY

Institution	Name	Patron	Cause of Vacancy
oc. 1275 . . .	Geoffrey ²²	—	—
—	Roger de Freckleton ²³	—	—
14 Jan. 1318-19.	Richard de Radcliffe ²⁴	Margery, lady of Bury	res. R. de Freckleton
23 Dec. 1323 .	Adam de Radcliffe ²⁵	" "	d. R. de Radcliffe
12 Dec. 1331 .	John de Radcliffe ²⁶	Margaret de Radcliffe .	d. A. de Bury
13 Mar. 1334-5 .	Henry de Over ²⁷	Henry s. of Sir Henry de Bury	res. John
17 May 1335 .	John de Radcliffe ²⁸	Henry de Bury	res. H. de Over
22 Oct. 1367 .	John de Pilkington ²⁹	Sir Roger de Pilkington .	d. J. de Radcliffe
28 Aug. 1406 .	Thomas de Hulton ³⁰	Sir John de Pilkington .	—
17 July 1442 .	Roger Bradeley ³¹	" "	—
9 May 1462 .	George Pilkington ³²	Thos. Pilkington	d. R. Bradeley
16 Feb. 1482-3 .	John Nabbs, B.Can.L. ³³	Sir T. Pilkington	d. G. Pilkington
19 Oct. 1507 .	Richard Smith, LL.B. ³⁴	{ John Ireland } { Thos. Stanley }	res. J. Nabbs
4 Feb. 1554-5 .	Richard Jones, M.A. ³⁵	Hugh Jones	d. last rector
21 Aug. 1568 .	Gowther Kenyon ³⁶	Earl of Derby	d. R. Jones
—	John Shireburne, B.D. ³⁷	—	—

²² There was in 1275 a dispute as to 2 acres of land between Geoffrey, rector of Bury, and Richard son of Robert, the former claiming them as the free alms of his church, and the latter as his lay fee; *De Banco R.* 7, m. 33.

About the same time a Geoffrey de Bury, not described as parson or clerk, was witness to a grant to Stanlaw Abbey; *Wballeu Coucher* (Chet. Soc.), ii, 481.

²³ He was ordained deacon in 1311 on the presentation of Siegrith, lady of Urmoston; *Lich. Epis. Reg.* i, fol. 114b.

²⁴ *Ibid.* i, fol. 86; he was a priest, and exchanged the rectory of Radcliffe for that of Bury. He took part in the rebellion of Thomas, Earl of Lancaster, in 1322, being present with Robert de Holland at Ravensdale after the king had forbidden the assembly. He was fined 10 marks; *Coram Rege R.* 254, m. 61 (where he is called Richard de Bury, parson of the church of Bury).

²⁵ *Lich. Epis. Reg.* ii, fol. 100b; he was a clerk. He is no doubt the Adam de Bury of the next presentation. Adam, rector of Bury, was ordained subdeacon in Sept. 1325, and priest a year later; *ibid.* i, 150, 152.

²⁶ *Ibid.* ii, fol. 107b; a clerk. In 1334 John son of Robert de Radcliffe, rector of Bury, was accused of maintenance; *Coram Rege R.* 8 Edw. III, m. 3. He was among those charged with complicity in the death of Sir William de Bradshagh; *Cal. Pat.* 1330-4, pp. 498, 572.

²⁷ *Lich. Epis. Reg.* ii, fol. 110; a priest. It is probable that John de Radcliffe had failed to comply with the canons, or had incurred censure through the proceedings mentioned in the last note, and that he resigned, Henry de Over taking his place for three months, so that he might secure a fresh presentation.

It should be noted that an Adam, parson of Bury, and Roger his brother are named in 1337; *Cal. Pat.* 1334-8, p. 452.

²⁸ *Lich. Epis. Reg.* ii, fol. 110; an acolyte. John de Radcliffe, as a trustee, is frequently mentioned. In 1343 he was charged with trespasses against the peace, including a part in the murder of Adam de Lever at Liverpool; *Assize R.* 430, m. 18d.; *Coram Rege R.* 344, m. 8; and two years later secured a pardon by offering to go to Gascony, or elsewhere, for a year at his own charges on the king's service; *Cal. Pat.* 1343-5, p. 531. He died on 22 Aug. 1367. His

son John became lord of Chadderton, but was illegitimate, the next-of-kin and heir of John the rector being Ralph son of William de Radcliffe; *De Banco R.* 426, m. 35; *R.* 435, m. 139.

²⁹ *Lich. Epis. Reg.* iv, fol. 83; a priest. He was still rector in 1394, and perhaps in 1402; *Lanc. Inq. p.m.* (Chet. Soc.), ii, 38.

³⁰ *Lich. Epis. Reg.* vii, fol. 95b; he had only the first tonsure. A Thomas de Hulton was prebendary of York in 1401 and 1404; *Le Neve, Fasti*, iii, 171, 224.

Thomas de Hulton in 1427 agreed to allow Thurstan de Langley, rector of Prestwich, to receive all the tithes, mortuaries, oblations, &c., within the town of Tottington and Tottington Frith, according to the sentence given in the Court Christian at Warrington, before Richard de Stanley, Archdeacon of Chester, or his official; *Agecroft D.* 75.

³¹ *Lich. Epis. Reg.* ix, fol. 126; a priest.

³² *Ibid.* xii, fol. 100b; a priest. George Pilkington, chaplain, was a younger son of Robert Pilkington, and was about 1462 a defendant with his brothers, Thomas, Edmund, &c., in a charge of robbery made by Peter Legh; *Pal. of Lanc. Plea R.* 24, m. 27d. In 1481 George Pilkington, rector of Bury, Robert Pilkington, late of Little Lever, and others, were summoned to answer for aiding and abetting divers felonies; *Pal. of Lanc. Writs Proton. file 22 Edw. IV b.*

³³ *Lich. Epis. Reg.* xii, fol. 116; he is called Master John Nebbe.

³⁴ *Ibid.* xiii-xiv, fol. 55. Richard Smith appears to have been presented a second time, on 21 Oct. 1507, by Sir Henry Halsall and Sir John Ireland; *Act Bks.* at Chester. He held the rectory for fifty years, appearing at the bishop's visitation in 1554. In 1523 it was reported to the Chancellor of the Duchy that he had been presented by the Earl of Derby, and that the rectory was worth 40 marks.

A few years later Richard Smith complained that he had appointed a parish clerk, but John Greenhalgh and others, probably as claiming a voice in the nomination, had combined against the new clerk and the rector. On the Sunday before All Saints' Day 1526, they came to church in the morning, 'making semblance as though they had come to hear there divine service,' but bearing

weapons concealed under their clothes. The rector, having said his hours, went in procession, the clerk preceding him with the crucifix as usual, when the confederates sprang up and attacked them, snatching the crucifix from the clerk's hands and casting it down, 'using themselves more like Jews and Paynims than otherwise.' There was 'no mass nor other divine service' in church that Sunday. On Hallowmass itself the rector, 'fearing to come abroad in the daylight, came into the said church early in the spring of the day, intending to have served Almighty God as to him of duty did appertain,' but found John Greenhalgh and the others lying in wait, and had to refrain 'from saying of mass and other service.' This seems to have gone on until the following January; *Duchy Plead.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), i, 151-3.

In 1542 Smith was official of Chester; *Duchy Plead.* ii, 154. He built a chapel on the north aisle of his church, no doubt intending to found a chantry there, but lived to see the spoliation of these endowments and the restoration of the old religion under Mary. Hugh Watmough, rector in 1614, allowed Roger Kay of Widdell to make a seat in the north chapel, which chapel had been erected by Richard Smith, formerly rector, and repaired by his successors; *Raines MSS.* (Chet. Lib.), xxxi, fol. 265.

³⁵ *Act Bks.* at Chester Dioc. Reg. Hugh Jones presented by grant of the Earl of Derby. The new rector paid first-fruits 1 Oct. 1557; *Lancs. and Ches. Rec.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), ii, 409. He was probably one of the Jones family of Middleton. His will, made in 1568, is printed in Piccote, *Wills* (Chet. Soc.), ii, 223. To the curate, Sir Roger Hodgkinson, he bequeathed, among other goods, his surplice and £5.

³⁶ *Church Papers* at Chester Dioc. Reg. Paid first-fruits 26 Nov. 1568; *Lancs. and Ches. Rec.* ii, 409.

³⁷ In 1572 there was a disputed presentation to the rectory. One John Shireburne, brother of Roger Shireburne of Chipping, claimed to be admitted, but had to submit to a searching examination. He professed himself 'obedient to the Queen's Majesty's proceedings in religion.' He had been in the company of Sir John Southworth. Though he had not preached at Blackburn denouncing the 'nakedness of the Church of England for want of ceremonies,' he had extolled good works in a

A HISTORY OF LANCASHIRE

Institution	Name	Patron	Cause of Vacancy
— 1572 . . .	Peter Shaw, B.D. ³⁸	—	—
6 July 1608 . .	Hugh Watmough, B.D. ³⁹	John Favour	d. P. Shaw
23 Aug. 1623 . .	George Murray, B.D. ⁴⁰	Earl of Derby	d. H. Watmough
16 Mar. 1632–3 .	Peter Travers, B.D. ⁴¹	"	d. G. Murray
— 1654 . . .	William Alt, M.A. ⁴²	Oliver, Protector	—
— 1654–6 . . .	John Lightfoot ⁴³	Countess of Derby	—
2 Mar. 1660–1 .	John Greenhalgh, D.D. ⁴⁴	"	res. J. Lightfoot
26 Feb. 1674–5 .	Thomas Gipps, B.D. ⁴⁵	Earl of Derby	d. J. Greenhalgh
19 May 1710 . .	James Bankes, M.A. ⁴⁶	Thos. Bankes	d. T. Gipps
19 July 1743 . .	Hon. John Stanley, D.D. ⁴⁷	Earl of Derby	d. J. Bankes
6 Feb. 1778 . .	Sir William Henry Clerke, bart., B.C.L. ⁴⁸	"	res. J. Stanley

sermon. Robert Cottam, a priest, once curate of Longridge, had paid him a visit when he lay sick. As being resident in Lord Derby's house he did not himself teach the Catechism to the youth of the parish. The Communion, he believed, was administered once a year only, unless sick folk asked for it. He had never been at burials or wakes; Raines MSS. (Chet. Lib.), xxii, fol. 531. From these replies it would appear that he had actually been in charge for some time, though not instituted. The admission asked for was no doubt refused, but Shireburne became rector of Brindle (q.v.).

³⁸ Paid first-fruits 20 Nov. 1572; *Lancs. and Ches. Rec.* ii, 410. Collated to the sixth prebendal stall at Durham, 1572; *Le Neve, Fasti*, iii, 313. He was plaintiff in a tithe case in 1598; *Ducatus Lanc.* (Rec. Com.), iii, 386. The 'wife of John Shaw, old Mrs. Shaw, the parson's mother,' was buried 4 May 1597, and the parson himself on 11 July 1608; Bury Reg. His son became rector of Radcliffe.

³⁹ Raines MSS. (Chet. Lib.), xxii, fol. 72; the patron for this turn was vicar of Halifax. The rector had been educated at University College, Oxford; M.A. 1586; B.D. 1594; rector of Thornton-in-Craven, 1599–1623; Foster, *Alumni*; Whitaker, *Craven*. Paid first-fruits 17 Dec. 1608; *Lancs. and Ches. Rec.* ii, 411. He was buried 21 Aug. 1623; Bury Reg. There is an allusion to him in N. Assheton's *Journ.* (Chet. Soc.), 6.

⁴⁰ The dates of institution, &c., from this time onward to 1800 are taken from the Inst. Bks. P.R.O., as printed in *Lancs. and Ches. Antiq. Notes*. For fuller accounts of the modern rectors see Baines, *Lancs.* (ed. Croston), iii, 98–101.

George Murray was of Queens' College, Cambridge, and had been tutor of Lord Strange; Raines MSS. (Chet. Lib.), xxii, fol. 72. He paid first-fruits 17 Nov. 1623; *Lancs. and Ches. Rec.* ii, 412 (where the name is given as Massye). He was a prebendary of Lichfield from 1623 to 1633; *Le Neve, Fasti*, i, 590, 602. Buried 12 Mar. 1632–3; Bury Reg. His will was proved at Chester in 1633.

⁴¹ Paid first-fruits 31 May 1633; *Lancs. and Ches. Rec.* ii, 413. The name is also spelt Travis. Shortly afterwards he was appointed rector of Halsall, retaining both benefices till ejected by the Parliamentarians, on account of his zealous adhesion to the royal side in the war. On 24 April 1645 it was ordered that as Peter Travers was 'disaffected to the Parliament and the proceedings thereof,' and was actually at Lathom House, a hostile garrison, his rectory should be sequestered; and that William Alt and Andrew Lathom, 'godly and orthodox divines,' should 'officiate the cure' and take for their pains the rectory house, tithes, and other profits. Mr. Lathom dying, Mr. Toby Furness, another

'godly and orthodox divine,' was 'settled in the rectory' in his place. A tenth part of the profits was paid to Mrs. Dorothy Travers, wife of the sequestered rector, for the maintenance of herself and her children; *Commonwealth Ch. Surv.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), 38–40. It is clear that the three ministers named were rather curates in charge during the sequestration than rectors. Toby Furness had had a similar charge at Prestwich; he signed the 'Harmonious Consent' in 1648, and continued to minister at Bury till his death about 1653; *Bury Classis* (Chet. Soc.), i, 90, 135. For Andrew Lathom, see *ibid.* ii, 242–4; his will is printed.

An incident of the time should be recorded: The Manchester Parliamentarians took from the church of Bury 'the surplice, and put it on the back of a soldier, and caused him to ride in the cart the arms were carried in, to be matter of sport and laughter to the beholders'; *Lancs. War* (Chet. Soc.), 11.

⁴² Rector Travers appears to have died by 1654, for Halsall as well as Bury was filled up in that year; *Plund. Mins. Accts.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), ii, 49, 60. William Alt, as 'minister of Bury,' signed the 'Harmonious Consent' of 1648. He had been a curate of Bury for many years, his name appearing in the registers from 1628. He died 5 April 1656, and was buried at Bury. See the account of him in *Bury Classis* (Chet. Soc.), ii, 208.

⁴³ Paid first-fruits 4 July 1656; *Lancs. and Ches. Rec.* ii, 414. He was presented in July 1654 by the Countess of Derby (*Plund. Mins. Accts.* ii, 46); but the Protector's presentation appears to have prevailed, though Lightfoot succeeded after William Alt's death. He is identified by Dr. W. A. Shaw with John son of the celebrated Dr. John Lightfoot; *Bury Classis*, ii, 246. He was Episcopalian in his leanings, and was in 1655 denounced by the congregation of Bury for 'certain mistakes and miscarriages in point of doctrine and practice'; *ibid.* 142. From the date it would appear that he took up his residence at Bury in the lifetime of Mr. Alt, and also ministered there. In 1659 he was engaged in suits respecting tithes; *Exc. Dep.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), 32, 33. He became vicar of Bowdon in 1660, and died in 1661. He had been an advocate of the Restoration, and is said to have been deprived of his benefice for praying publicly for the king at the time of Sir George Booth's rising; *Manch. Guardian Local N. and Q.* no. 577.

⁴⁴ He was a son of John Greenhalgh of Brandlesholme, and educated at St. John's College, Cambridge; *Admissions St. John's Col.* i, 9; Dugdale, *Visit.* (Chet. Soc.), 126. He was elected fellow of his College in 1632, but expelled by the Earl of Manchester (for the Parliament) in 1644; Baker, *Hist. of St. John's Col.* (ed. Mayor),

i, 294, 296. He was a Royalist, and attended the Earl of Derby on his way to Bolton in 1651, being afterwards chaplain at Knowsley; *Stanley Papers* (Chet. Soc.), iii, pp. ccxxxix, cclxxvii. He took the D.D. degree in 1672. He died 27 Oct. 1674; Bury Reg. His will was proved at Chester.

⁴⁵ He was a correspondent of John Walker, author of *The Sufferings of the Clergy*; *Bury Classis*, ii. He was educated at Trinity College, Cambridge, of which he became fellow; M.A. 1662. In 1674 he received a faculty to preach throughout England and Ireland from James, Duke of Monmouth, then Chancellor of the University; Stratford, *Visit.* List, Chester. His sermon at the Preston Guild of 1682 was published, and in 1697 he printed a sermon *Against Corrupting the Word of God*, directed against the Presbyterians, which roused some controversy; Fishwick, *Lancs. Lib.* 391–2. His will was proved at Chester in 1710.

A terrier compiled by this rector in 1696 for the benefit of his successor is in the possession of W. Farrer. There is a copy in Raines MSS. (Chet. Lib.), xxii, fol. 368. It contains a full account of the rector's dues and the tenants of the glebe, with advice as to dealing with the people, especially those of Tottington. The Easter dues were as follows: House and offering, 5d.; every communicant, ½d.; garden, 1d.; hen, 1d.; cow, 1d.; calf, ½d. (except there be seven); plough, 4d.; foal, 2d.; sheep, each 1d.; every lamb, 1d. (except there be seven); every loom, 1d.; every swarm of bees, 1d.; wintering only sheep, each ½d.; or summering them only, ¾d.

⁴⁶ Church P. at Chester. Thomas Bankes had the right of presentation for that turn only. The date in the text is that of presentation. There was probably some dispute as to title, for the new rector was not instituted till 5 March 1712–13.

The rector was of the Winstanley family, and founded a charity for the poor. An anecdote of him is in Raines MSS. (Chet. Lib.), xxxi, fol. 278.

James Bankes, of Trinity College, Cambridge, M.A. 1686, became rector of Lilley 1706; Foster, *Alumni Oxon.*

⁴⁷ Also rector of Winwick, under which church he is noticed. At Bury he founded a charity school, and started a dispensary. Some anecdotes of him will be found in Raines MSS. xxxi, fol. 335, 355.

⁴⁸ Educated at Oxford; fellow of All Souls; B.C.L. 1778. Succeeded his brother as eighth baronet in the same year; G.E.C. *Complete Baronetage*, iii, 81. He is said to have been a charitable man, but incapable of managing his affairs; his creditors came upon him, the benefice was sequestered, and he died in the Fleet Prison; Raines MSS. xxxi, fol. 344.

A further account of his speculations is given in Barton, *Bury*, 106, 107.

SALFORD HUNDRED

BURY

Institution	Name	Patron	Cause of Vacancy
23 Sept. 1818	Geoffrey Hornby, LL.B. ⁴⁹	Earl of Derby	d. Sir W. H. Clerke
28 Mar. 1850	Edward James Geoffrey Hornby, M.A. ⁵⁰	"	d. G. Hornby
10 Sept. 1888	Frank Edward Hopwood, M.A. ⁵¹	"	d. E. J. G. Hornby
13 Feb. 1894	Foster Grey Blackburne, M.A. ⁵²	"	d. F. E. Hopwood
27 Apr. 1909	John Charles Hill, M.A. ⁵³	"	d. F. G. Blackburne

Little is known of the condition of the pre-Reformation clergy. There was no endowed chantry at the parish church, but probably each of the chapels of ease, at Holcombe, Edenfield, and Heywood, had a curate of its own. Richard Smith, rector in 1542, paid a curate, and the stipend of another assistant priest was contributed by Charles Nuttall and others.⁵⁴ In 1548, however, only the rector and these two assistants are named in the bishop's visitation list; in 1554 there were four, a curate having been found for Edenfield; the same names reappear in 1563, when the rector was 'excused,' perhaps for absence, and two years later there are five names in the list—showing an increase in the number. This extraordinary statement is somewhat modified by the fact that two of those named did not appear, and that another's name was marked out, the active clergy being reduced to the rector and his curate, Roger Hodgkinson.⁵⁴ It was reported to the royal commissioners in 1559 that the curate of Bury did not read the Gospel, Epistle, Lord's Prayer, and Ten Commandments, according to the proclamation.⁵⁵ A similar indifference or hostility, though perhaps from other causes, appears in 1592, when the rector and curate were ordered to use the Catechism, go the perambulations, and 'observe her majesty's injunctions in all things'; the churchwardens were to provide Jewell's *Reply* and *Apology*.⁵⁶ About 1610 the incumbent was 'a preacher,' and the three chapels were 'maintained by the inhabitants.'⁵⁷

During the sequestration under the Commonwealth the curates in charge preached constantly every Sabbath day and once every Thursday, the market day, keeping a constant lecture there, as had been accustomed; they lived in the parsonage house.⁵⁸ The Restoration appears to have been quietly accepted in Bury itself, where the two landowners, the Earl of Derby and the rector, were both Royalists. Nonconformists, however, were numerous, and in 1669 the vicar reported to the Bishop of Chester that he heard that several conventicles were 'constantly kept at private houses of Independents, Presbyterians, Dippers and other such like jointly, of the best rank of the yeomanry and other inferiors.'⁵⁹ The matter became evident after the Revolution,⁶⁰ and Bury has now, like other Lancashire parishes, provision for a great variety of worship and doctrine.

Apart from the grammar school at **CHARITIES** Bury, founded in 1625 and refounded in 1726,⁶¹ and some other endowments for ecclesiastical and educational purposes, the general charitable funds have an income of about £190 a year.⁶² Some ancient benefactions have been lost. The whole parish participates in the sums given by John Guest in 1653,⁶³ Thomas Rothwell in 1737,⁶⁴ and Rector Bankes in 1743.⁶⁵ The old manor or township of Bury, including Bury, Heap, Elton, and Walmersley, benefits under the will of Samuel Waring, 1742.⁶⁶ Bury proper had in 1828 two small

⁴⁹ Son of Geoffrey Hornby, rector of Winwick; educated at Peterhouse, Cambridge; LL.B. 1809; rector of Felbrigg-with-Moulton in Norfolk, 1813.

⁵⁰ Son of the preceding rector; educated at Merton College, Oxford; M.A. 1843; incumbent of Christ Church, Walmersley, 1841; vicar of Ormskirk, 1846; Hon. Canon of Manchester, 1855.

⁵¹ Son of Canon Hopwood, rector of Winwick; educated at Christ Church, Oxford; M.A. 1868; incumbent of St. James's, Congleton, 1869; rector of Badsworth, 1879.

⁵² Son of Rev. Thomas Blackburne, rector of Prestwich; educated at Brasenose College, Oxford; M.A. 1864; rector of Nantwich, 1872; Hon. Canon of Manchester, 1898; Archdeacon of Manchester, 1905; died 1 Feb. 1909.

⁵³ Educated at Trinity College, Cambridge; honorary canon of Worcester.

⁵⁴ *Clergy List* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), 12.

⁵⁵ From the visitation lists at Chester.

The church ornaments existing in 1552 included four sets of vestments for the priest to say mass in, three great bells in the steeple and a little sanctus bell, a veil to hang before the altar in Lent, &c.; *Cb. Gds.* (Chet. Soc.), 45, 46.

Roger Hodgkinson was one of the old clergy, having been ordained priest in 1547; *Ordin. Bk.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), 80. He was still curate in 1575; Pennant's *Acct. Bk.* Thomas Duerden was curate in 1599.

⁵⁶ *Ch. Gds.* 47, quoting S.P. Dom. Eliz. x, 288. The depositions of John Shireburne in 1572, already cited, have some suggestive features.

⁵⁷ W. F. Irvine in *Lancs. and Ches. Antig. Soc.* xiii, 57.

⁵⁸ *Hist. MSS. Com. Rep.* xiv, App. iv, 12. Each chapel had its own curate in 1634; *Misc.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), i, 95.

⁵⁹ *Commonw. Ch. Surv.* 40. At this time there were no ministers at Holcombe and Edenfield, 'for want of maintenance'; 44.

⁶⁰ Visit. P. at Chester Dioc. Reg.

⁶¹ Quakers were presented at the bishop's visitation of 1671; *ibid.*

⁶² The original founder, Henry Bury (d. 1636), who was a native of the place, also gave a number of books, three or four of which are still preserved; *Old Lancs. Libraries* (Chet. Soc.), 139. A school magazine called the *Clavian* is published.

⁶³ The details given are from the *End. Char. Rep. for Bury*, published in 1901; the county borough of Bury was not included. The report of 1828 is reprinted.

⁶⁴ John Guest gave rent-charges of £3 15s. each to the ministers of the parish churches of Winwick, Leigh, Wigan, Deane, Radcliffe, Bolton, Bury, and Middleton, to be spent in linen cloth for the poor. His estate being insufficient for the fulfilment of the bequests, an Act was passed in 1663 under which this parish received £60, Bury having £40 and Tottington the rest. The rectors appear to have had charge of the capital, but

owing to the insolvency of one of them only £30 remained in 1828, for which Rector Hornby allowed 30s. interest, expended in linen cloth. It appears that £3 13s. 4d. was then independently held for the benefit of the township of Cowpe Lench in the Hundred of Blackburn; it has since been lost.

⁶⁵ As in the preceding charity, half of the capital of £10 had been lost before 1828, and the 5s. given as interest by the rector was expended on fourpenny loaves for poor persons attending church. The testator had named 'sixpenny jannocks.'

The Guest and Rothwell Charities are now represented by £64 consols, and by a scheme approved in 1863 the income, 35s. 4d., is spent on clothing or other necessities for the poor of the ancient parish.

⁶⁶ The capital of £60 is represented by a rent-charge of £3 still paid by the owner of the Winstanley estate. The income is distributed in flannels, &c., by the incumbents of the different ecclesiastical parishes.

A benefaction of the Rev. John Lomax, 1694, had been lost by 1786.

⁶⁷ He left £20, which was increased by unknown benefactors to £84. In 1828 George Ormerod, the historian of Cheshire, as heir of Thomas Johnson, who had held the capital, granted a rent-charge of £4 4s. a year; this is still paid, and a guinea each is sent to the rector of Bury, and the vicars of Elton All Saints, Walmersley, and Heywood St. Luke, for distribution to the poor. The original gift was for linen cloth.

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charities.⁶⁷ In Heap, in addition to Heywood School, 1737, is the foundation of John Nuttall, 1763,⁶⁸ with the more substantial recent gifts of William Clegg, 1887, and others.⁶⁹ Walmersley had a school at Baldingstone, founded in 1716,⁷⁰ and over £22 for the general benefit of the poor, the gifts of Richard Haworth, 1760,⁷¹ and John Hall, 1867.⁷² The most considerable single charity is that founded in 1892-6 by Miss Nancy Haworth for the poor of Walshaw, partly in Tottington Lower End and partly in Elton.⁷³ Tottington has old school endowments and some gifts for the poor, including £35 a year from Miss Jane Brennand's bequest in 1882.⁷⁴ The township of Cowpe Lench participates in Mrs. Alice Martha Crabtree's bequest.⁷⁵

BURY

Biri, 1194; Buri, 1212; Bury, 1227, and usual; Byry, 1292; Bery, 1323.

The township of Bury lies principally in the narrow tongue of land between the Irwell and the Roch, stretching north for over 4 miles from the confluence of these streams. The surface is generally level, but rises on the north-east border to a height of 600 ft. The area is 2,329½ acres.¹ The population of the township in 1901 was 44,032 and of the borough 58,029.

The town of Bury occupies the centre of the township. The church is situated above what was the old course of the Irwell, the ground falling rapidly to the north of the Bolton and Rochdale road leading past the church. Just at the south-west corner of the church this road is joined by that from Manchester,

and the open space or Wylde² at that point is still known as the Market-place. The statue of Sir Robert Peel, erected in 1852, stands here; and to the west was formerly the fortified manor-house of the Pilkingtons. The road leading west to Bolton descends to cross the Irwell at Bury Bridge; the district to the south of it is called Tentersfield. Going east from the church it passes through Freetown and Pits o' th' Moor, to the north-east of the last-named being Woodgate Hill. One branch of this road takes a more southerly course, crossing the Roch at Heap Bridge and leading to Heywood; to the south of it lies Pimhole. Another branch runs almost due north, passing Chesham and its park on the right, and going through Little Wood Cross and Limefield to Walmersley and Haslingden. The Manchester road goes southerly from the church, passing through Buckley Wells, Fishpool, and Redvales, to Blackford Bridge over the Roch.

The Lancashire and Yorkshire Company's railway from Manchester to Accrington passes north through the township, with a station (Bolton Street) near the church. A line to Tottington branches off from this. The same company's line from Bolton to Rochdale crosses the other at right angles, with a station (Knowsley Street) to the south of the former.³ Electric tram-cars run along the main thoroughfares in all directions.

Bury has long been a seat of the woollen manufacture; Bury blankets are known everywhere. Leland, about 1535, speaks of 'yarn sometime made about Bury, a market town on Irwell';⁴ a deputy aulnager was appointed in 1564 to stamp woollen cloth.⁵ Defoe, writing about 1730, observed that at

⁶⁷ Robert Shepherd in 1666 granted to trustees a rent-charge of £9 arising from his messuage called Hall-de-Hill in Elton; they were to expend £7 10s. for the benefit of poor householders in Bury, and in apprenticing children. In 1828 the £9 was paid by the then owner of the property, and was distributed in sums of from 5s. to 15s. among poor persons selected by the trustees.

William Yates in 1810 bequeathed £400 for the benefit of the poor. This was in 1828 invested in Government stock, and the income £16 3s. 10d. was distributed in sums of 10s. each.

Thomas Openshaw, who died in 1869, left £4,000 for the poor; Barton, *Bury*, 106.

⁶⁸ His £10 was lent to James Starky, whose descendant, James Starky of Heywood, in 1828 paid 8s. a year interest; it was given on Good Friday to poor communicants. The capital was, in 1863, given to the official trustees; the income, 5s. 8d., is distributed as formerly.

Samuel Haworth in 1767 left a charge of £2 10s. a year for linen or woollen cloth for the poor; but his property being leasehold, the charge expired when the lease ran out, before 1828.

Heywood School was discontinued in 1891.

Requests by Ann Bamford in 1778 for education were void under the Mortmain Acts.

⁶⁹ William Clegg gave £1,000 to commemorate Queen Victoria's Jubilee; it is now invested in consols, and the total income is £27 1s. 8d. a year. In 1890 the sons of the Rev. Robert Minnitt gave £150 in fulfilment of their father's intention; this produces £4 6s. The two charities are worked together; tickets for 5s. each are given to poor persons to be expended on clothing or the like necessities.

⁷⁰ The school was discontinued in 1883. In this and similar cases the interest on the capital is now applied to provide prizes, &c., for school-children of the district.

⁷¹ The residue of the testator's estate produced £481; this sum was in 1828 in the hands of Thomas Kay, and the interest, £19 4s. 9½d., was distributed in doles of money. In 1831 the capital was expended in the purchase of a copyhold farm in Musbury; this was sold in 1887 for £720, now represented by £649 consols. The income, £17 16s. 8d., is still given in money doles to about ninety recipients.

⁷² His bequest was not available till 1876, when it was invested in £481 5s. 8d. consols, of which a third was allotted to Walmersley. The income, £4 14s. 8d., is distributed in money doles and gifts of flannel.

⁷³ Her will was proved in 1897. She left £2,000, increased by a codicil to £3,000, to the minister and churchwardens of the Jesse Haworth Memorial Church for the benefit of workpeople at her brother's mills at Walshaw, and of the poor of the district. The income, £82 7s. 4d., is distributed in money gifts.

Thomas Howard in 1808 left a rent-charge of £5 5s. for the poor of Elton; it was distributed in blankets, but the charity expired with the lives of the persons named in the lease.

⁷⁴ She left £1,000 to the vicar and churchwardens of St. Paul's, Ramsbottom, to keep her gravestone in good order, and to distribute the remainder of the income to the poor. An additional amount of £41 8s. from other sources was invested with it, and the total income is £35. All but about 4s. for the care of the grave is spent upon the poor in various ways, £5 being subscribed to the cottage hospital.

John Hall's benefaction has been described above. A third of the amount was allotted to Tottington Lower End, and the income is distributed in payments to the sick.

The Rev. Thos. Bridge, rector of Malpas (1625-80), left £200 to the 'township' of Holcombe; as there was no such township the executors refused to pay, but gave £100 to Tottington. In 1828 the income was applied, according to the testator's wish, in apprenticing children. The capital has long been lost; see Gastrell, *Notitia Cestr.* (Chet. Soc.), ii, 32.

John Buckley in 1737 gave £10 for the poor of Tottington Lower End, but nothing was known of it in 1828.

Lawrence Rostron in 1812 directed that his executors and their assigns should distribute to the poor any interest they might receive from the trustees of the turnpike road from Rochdale to Edenfield. Nothing is known of this charity since 1867.

⁷⁵ She in 1877 bequeathed £500 for the 'deserving poor' of St. James's, Waterfoot; the ecclesiastical district includes part of Cowpe Lench. See the *End. Char. Rep.* for Whalley (Newchurch in Rossendale), 1901, p. 22.

¹ 3,828 acres, including 104 of inland water. This is the area of the borough.

² B. T. Barton, *Bury*, 40.

³ The Liverpool and Bury line was opened in 1848.

⁴ *Itin.* vii, 49; he also remarks that Bury had 'but a poor market.' Camden, on the other hand, calls it a market town 'not less considerable than Rochdale'; *Brit.* (ed. 1695), 745.

⁵ 8 Eliz. cap. 12; Bury is one of the five towns named. For a Bury ulnage case in 1547-9 see *Duchy Plead.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), iii, 6-10.

Bury 'the manufacture of cotton . . . was ended, and the woollen manufacture of coarse sorts, called half-thicks and kerseys, begun; which employs this and all the villages about it.'⁶ There are also extensive cotton mills, iron and brass foundries, paper mills, and bleach works. Bury is also noted for simnel cakes, and the fourth Sunday in Lent is kept as a festival;⁷ parkin, a corruption of Tharcake, was made at the beginning of November.⁸

The old festivals were those of the Royal Oak, Robin Hood, and 'Maying Night.'⁹ Football games were played at certain seasons.¹⁰ Otter-hunting was one of the sports of the district.¹¹

Fairs are held on 5 March, 3 May, and 18 September. The wakes begin on the Saturday after August Bank Holiday.

The dungeon,¹² pillory,¹³ and town cross¹⁴ have disappeared. The ghosts or 'boggarts' have also gone.¹⁵

The printing press was introduced in 1789.¹⁶ The first newspaper was the *Bury Mercury*, issued in 1831.¹⁷ There are now four—the *Times* (begun in 1855) and the *Guardian* (1857), published twice a week, and the *Visitor* and the *Advertiser*, each once.¹⁸

There is a theatre.¹⁹

A halfpenny token was issued in 1667.²⁰

In Bury town there were 114 hearths liable to the tax; John Greenhalgh's rectory had ten hearths, John Brook's house eight, Richard Tootell's seven, those of John Eckersall and John Redferne six each. In Bury Upper End were fifty-two hearths.²¹

Various changes in the boundaries have taken place in recent years,²² and the present township or civil parish of Bury contains not only the ancient hamlet or township, but parts of Elton, Walmersley-with-Shuttleworth, and Heap.²³

The manor of *BURY* was held of the *MANORS* lord of Tottington as one knight's fee.²⁴

The tenant bore the local surname, and in 1193–4 Adam de Bury offered 5 marks for having the king's good will after the rebellion of John, Count of Mortain.²⁵ Under Roger de Montbegon Adam de Bury, son of Ailward de Bury by his wife Alice de Montbegon,²⁶ in 1212 held the fee of one knight 'of ancient tenure';²⁷ the formation of this holding may therefore date from the early part of the 12th century. In 1302 Henry de Bury held the fee of the Earl of Lincoln.²⁸ In 1313 he made a settlement of the manor,²⁹ and two years later was killed in some of the disturbances raised by Adam Banastre.³⁰

⁶ *Tour through Great Britain* (ed. 1738), iii, 182.

⁷ Barton, *Bury*, 23.

⁸ *Ibid.*, 109.

⁹ *Ibid.*, 10–13.

¹⁰ *Ibid.*, 41; Christmas, Shrovetide, and Good Friday each had special matches, the final games being played in Easter week.

¹¹ *Ibid.*, 45.

¹² *Ibid.*, 42. The old court house stood near the cross; *ibid.*, 44.

¹³ *Ibid.*, 43; it was used for the last time about 1800.

¹⁴ *Ibid.*, 43, 300. It stood near the centre of the market-place, and was taken down in 1818.

¹⁵ *Ibid.*, 13, 34; one of them was like a white rabbit.

¹⁶ *Ibid.*, 7; *Local Gleanings*, *Lancs. and Ches.*, i, 71, gives 'in or before 1798.'

¹⁷ *Manch. Guardian N. and Q.*, no. 490.

¹⁸ In 1867 they were the *Times*, *Guardian*, and *Broadsheet*.

¹⁹ An early theatrical performance in a barn in Moss Lane in 1787 ended in the collapse of the building and death or injury to many of the spectators; Barton, *Bury*, 18–23; see also 32.

²⁰ *Lancs. and Ches. Antiq. Soc.*, v, 75; it was issued by Samuel Waring, otherwise notable as a prosperous Nonconformist; *ibid.*, and Ormerod, *Parentalia*.

²¹ *Subs. R. bdle.* 250, no. 9, *Lancs.*; for 1666.

²² By the Bury Improvement Acts, 1872 and 1885. The bounds are described in the *Bury Times Business Directory*.

²³ The county borough includes Bury and parts of Elton, Tottington Lower End, Walmersley-with-Shuttleworth, Birtle-with-Bamford, Heap, Pilsworth, Pilkington, and Radcliffe. It was made a single civil parish or township in 1894 by Local Gov. Bd. Order 31671.

²⁴ *Lancs. Inq. and Extents* (Rec. Soc. *Lancs. and Ches.*), i, 59, 60, 145. After the Montbegons sold Tottington to the Lacy, Bury was held of the Earl of Lincoln, as in 1242, when it was part of the dower of the countess (*ibid.*, 153); and afterwards of the Earls and Dukes of Lancaster. Sake fee of 8s. and castleward 10s. were payable for Bury; Extent

of 17 Edw. II; Sheriff's Compotus of 22 Edw. III.

²⁵ Farrer, *Lancs. Pipe R.*, 77. A little later Henry de Bury is named; *ibid.*, 355.

It was probably another Henry de Bury who about 1240 attested a surrender of part of Rochdale rectory; *Whalley Coucher* (Chet. Soc.), i, 143.

²⁶ In 1244–5 Adam de Bury laid claim to the Montbegon inheritance on the strength of this descent; the jury did not allow it, so that Alice may have been illegitimate; Assize R. 482, m. 17. Alice, wife of Eward (or Ailward) de Bury, received from her father, Adam de Montbegon, land in Tottington; *Lancs. Inq. and Extents*, i, 61.

²⁷ *Ibid.*, 60. Robert de Bury and Adam de Bury attested an Eccles Charter about 1205; *Whalley Coucher* (Chet. Soc.), i, 57. It is impossible to say how many Adams there were. Adam de Bury secured an acknowledgement of his right to a moiety of Shuttleworth in 1227; *Final Conc.* (Rec. Soc. *Lancs. and Ches.*), i, 49. He was one of the twelve knights engaged in the perambulation of the forest in 1228; *Lancs. Pipe R.*, 420. A little later he confirmed land in Marland to Stanlaw Abbey; *Whalley Coucher*, ii, 593. He held the knight's fee in 1242; *Inq. and Extents*, i, 153. Four years later he recovered a small strip of land, probably on the boundary, against Geoffrey de Radcliffe; Assize R. 404, m. 3.

An Adam, son of Adam de Bury, appears in 1246 at Bradley, near Chipping, but he may be of another family; *Final Conc.*, i, 102.

The king in 1250 ordered the sheriff not to place Adam de Bury on juries so long as he continued to be coroner; Close R. 64, m. 1. In 1251 Adam was one of the knights attesting the grant of Ordsall to David de Hulton; Gregson, *Fragments* (ed. Harland), 347.

The rights of Adam's mill were in 1256 acknowledged by two of the tenants, who agreed to grind corn growing on the lands they held of him to the twentieth measure; but should Adam allow his mill to fall into decay then they were to

be at liberty to grind elsewhere, without giving any multure to him; *Final Conc.*, i, 120. Two years before this Adam had claimed suit of mill against various tenants; Curia Regis R. 154, m. 16, 17.

An Alexander de Bury made a grant of Gollinroyd about 1260; Ormerod, *Parentalia*, 43.

Adam de Bury was plaintiff and defendant in suits of 1277 and 1278; Assize R. 1235, m. 13; R. 1238, m. 31, 32; R. 1239, m. 37, 39. He was again plaintiff in 1281; Pat. 9 Edw. I, m. 14 d. Sir Adam de Bury and Adam his son attested a Barton charter before or about that time; De Trafford Deeds, no. 192.

In 1287 Anabel, widow of Adam de Bury, claimed a third part of the manor of Bury and advowson of the church, against Henry de Lacy; De Banco R. 67, m. 56.

²⁸ *Inq. and Extents*, i, 313. Already in 1300 he had been charged by Alexander son of Henry del Hurst with unjust distraint on cattle and corn at the Rhodes in Bury, but in reply urged that Alexander was his vassal; De Banco R. 131, m. 11. He occurs as plaintiff in 1306 and 1309; De Banco R. 161, m. 437 d.; R. 179, m. 206 d. In 1311 Sir Henry de Bury held the manor of Bury by the service of one knight and suit to the court of Tottington from three weeks to three weeks; *De Lacy Inq.* (Chet. Soc.), 19.

²⁹ *Final Conc.*, ii, 13; Geoffrey son of Robert de Bury acted as deforciant. The advowson of the church was included with the manor; after the death of Henry de Bury they were to remain to Margery daughter of Richard de Radcliffe for life; after her decease to Henry son of Henry de Bury and his issue, and in default successively to Alice, Agnes, and Isabel, daughters of the elder Henry; finally to Adam son of Matthew de Bury and his heirs. This fine was frequently cited in the subsequent disputes as to the manor. Henry son of Adam de Bury was plaintiff in 1313; De Banco R. 198, m. 36 d.

³⁰ At an inquiry in 1323 it was stated that Sir Adam Banastre and others made their confederacy on the Wednesday before St. Wilfrid's Day, 1315, and a few days

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PILKINGTON. *Argent a cross patee voided gules.*



STANLEY, Earl of Derby. *Argent on a bend azure three harts' heads cabossed or.*

later sent Nicholas de Singleton and others to capture Adam de Radcliffe and his brothers. Adam was seized at the parsonage house at Radcliffe, and his captors then went to Sir Henry de Bury's house to find the brothers, who, however, were not there. Henry de Bury was thereupon taken, and John de Croston, Stephen Scallard, and others slew him, and stole his horse and other goods and chattels, for which death they were hanged; Sir William de Bradshagh and many others of the confederates were outlawed; *Coram Rege* R. 254, m. 52. From these particulars it would seem that the confederacy was made on 9 Oct. and the murder was done on or about the 12th. On the following Wednesday (16 Oct.) the king ordered Robert de Lathom and others to inquire into it (*Cal. Pat.* 1313-17, p. 419), and another record of the trial states that John de Walton, Stephen Shaw, and Adam son of Adam de Freckleton were the guilty ones, while a large number of others were with them, and Adam Banastre, Henry de Lea, and William de Bradshagh knowingly received them after the felony was committed; *Coram Rege* R. 299, Rex m. 20. This record gives 16 Oct. as the date of the death, and a number of particulars are given as to the fate of the guilty persons.

⁸¹ By the fine above referred to Margery de Radcliffe (as she was usually called) had the manor for her life. In 1318 and 1319 certain lands were settled by fine, the remainders being the same as in the earlier one; *Final Conc.* ii, 29, 34. No mention is made of younger sons of Sir Henry. In the latter year Margery was plaintiff in a suit respecting Bury mill; *De Banco* R. 299, m. 66 d. In a feodary of a little later date it is stated that Margery de Radcliffe and Henry her son held 3 plough-lands and 6 oxgangs in Bury for a knight's fee; *Duchy of Lanc. Knights' Fees*, bde. 1, no. 11. Margery daughter of Richard de Radcliffe appeared against William de Rawstorn and Adam son of Robert de Middleton to enforce them to do suit at her mill; *De Banco* R. 229, m. 66 d. In 1322 she charged Robert de Walkden with having come with other malefactors and disturbers of the peace—probably in connexion with the rising of Earl Thomas—and taken from her manor of Bury sixty cows, twenty-nine oxen, two horses, ten heifers, &c.; and Robert was committed to prison; *Coram Rege* R. 254, m. 69 d. Margery was living in 1334; *Coram Rege* R. 298, Rex m. 1 d.; she was also living in 1336 as appears by a later case cited. She presented to the rectory in 1319, 1323, and 1331; and Henry son of Sir Henry de Bury in 1335, as will be seen by the list of rectors. This presentation is almost the only recorded act of the younger Henry. In 1348 Alice, then widow of Roger de Pilkington, ap-

pears to have been in undisputed possession; *De Banco* R. 354, m. 3 d.

In Oct. 1351 Henry son of Margery de Radcliffe made his claim to the manor of Bury, except twenty-one messuages, 300 acres of land, 300 acres of meadow, 300 acres of wood, and 2s. rent. The defendants were Alice and Roger, widow and son of Roger de Pilkington, and a number of others holding lands within the manor. The fine of 1313 was adduced; Henry de Bury, Margery, and the younger Henry were all dead; but Margery had alienated the manor to Henry, the plaintiff; Henry had also secured a release from one Adam de Bury, described as the true heir of Henry the elder; *Duchy of Lanc. Assize* R. 1, m. 7. Henry son of Margery de Radcliffe also claimed forty messuages, 600 acres of land, &c., in Bury, Tottington, and Middleton; *ibid.* m. 7 d. Similar statements as to the succession were made in reply to a claim to messuages and houses in Bury put forward at the same time by John de Radcliffe, the defendants being Alice and Roger de Pilkington and John son of William de Bury; *ibid.* m. 2 d. In this case the jury found that Henry son of Sir Henry died *before* Margery; and that Adam, the true heir, was a younger son of Sir Henry.

The name of the plaintiff Henry's father is not given in these suits, but he is called Henry de Bury, and may have been, like Adam, a son of Sir Henry born after the fine of 1313; see *Dep. Keeper's Rep.* xxxii, App. 348.

A further claim made by Henry son of Margery in 1353 was defeated, the jury again finding that Henry son of Henry de Bury died before Margery, and that the plaintiff was not *in rerum natura* in 1313; *Assize* R. 435, m. 21 d. In the following year Henry son of Margery did not prosecute a claim he made against John de Radcliffe the elder; *Duchy of Lanc. Assize* R. 3, m. 1. John de Radcliffe was more successful in 1355 against the Pilkingtons, it being found that the lands he claimed were his free tenement, and that Alice de Pilkington had wrongly entered into possession; *ibid.* R. 4, m. 27 d. About the same time Henry son of Margery was also successful in a claim to certain lands, it being found that these were in Tottington and not in Bury; *ibid.* m. 28 d. It is here stated that the quitclaim by Adam, the son and true heir of Sir Henry de Bury, was dated in 1336. The dispute still continued in the following year; *ibid.* R. 5, m. 19 d., 20 d. See *Lancs. Inq. p.m.* (*Chet. Soc.*), ii, 175.

⁸² In spite of the claims put forward Roger de Pilkington appears to have retained possession, contributing to the aid of 1346-55 as lord of Bury; *Feud. Aids*, iii, 87. He probably made a settlement of the manor in 1350, a fine of £100 being recorded in that year for an

His son Henry died without issue, on which his daughter Alice, wife of Roger de Pilkington, and her son Roger succeeded in establishing their right to the manor, although her mother Margery, daughter of Richard de Radcliffe, had endeavoured to secure it or a portion of the estate for her younger son Henry.⁸¹

The Pilkingtons remained in possession till 1485,⁸² when all the manors and lands of Sir Thomas Pilkington were forfeited for his adherence to Richard III, the new king granting them to the Earl of Derby in 1489.⁸³ The manor of Bury then de-

'alienation'; *Accts. (Exch. Q.R.)*, bde. 108, m. 34. From a suit of July 1354, it appears that lands in the Rhodes which William the Baxter of Stockport had granted to Margery de Radcliffe descended to Roger de Pilkington, who obtained a quitclaim from Almarica, William's widow; *Duchy of Lanc. Assize* R. 3, m. 3 d. In 1368 Sir Roger de Pilkington again made a formal statement of his title; *De Banco* R. 431, m. 351.

An account of the family is given under Pilkington in Prestwich. In 1421 it was found that Sir John de Pilkington had held a moiety of the manor and the advowson of the church in conjunction with Margery his wife, and also a fourth part of the manor by grant of his father, while he had given the other fourth part to his son Sir John de Pilkington and Margaret his wife; the whole manor was held of the king as of his duchy of Lancaster; *Lancs. Inq. p.m. (Chet. Soc. ii, 179)*. A number of the Pilkington charters of the period 1420-50 are copied in Raines MSS. (*Chet. Lib.*), xxxviii, fol. 1-17.

In 1431 Sir John Pilkington was in possession; *Feud. Aids*, iii, 96. So also in 1445-6, the relief being stated as 100s.; *Duchy of Lanc. Knights' Fees*, bde. 2, no. 20. In 1443 Sir John Pilkington complained that the bailiff of Salfordshire had unjustly distrained his cattle at Redvales (Redyuals). The bailiff asserted that Bury was held of the king by knight's service, to wit, by homage, fealty, and scutage, and by the service of doing suit at the king's wapentake of Salford every three weeks, by the rent of 10s. called castle ward, and by the rent of 8s.; and the castle ward rent being in arrear for four years, he had taken four oxen. Sir John denied that this rent was due from him; *Pal. of Lanc. Plea* R. 5, m. 166. In 1483 it was returned that Sir Thomas Pilkington paid 8s. yearly for Bury and 10s. for ward of Lancaster Castle; *Duchy of Lanc. Misc.* 130.

⁸³ *Pat.* 4 Hen. VII, 23 Feb. In the inquisition after the death of Thomas, the second earl, in 1521, it was found that he had held the manor of Bury and tenements there of the king, as of his duchy of Lancaster by the service of one knight's fee and by the rent of 8s.; it was worth £30 clear per annum. Sir Henry Halsall was appointed steward of Bury and Pilkington in 1509, with an annuity of £10; *Duchy of Lanc. Inq. p.m.* v, no. 68.

At that time (1519-20) there were four constables of Bury, appearing at the court of Tottington. The bailiff of the latter manor complained that he had not been allowed to distrain within the lordship of Bury for several amercements, and that stray sheep seized within Tottington had been driven off by servants of the Earl of Derby. The earl had liberty of waif and stray within Bury, and after the sheep

scended regularly to the fifteenth earl,³³ who in 1872 sold his rights, the advowson excepted, to the Improvement Commissioners, who have been succeeded by the present corporation. He remained the principal landowner, as his successor, the present earl, still is.

The principal incidents of the tenure by the Pilkingtons were the grant of a weekly market and two fairs about 1440,³⁴ and the licence in 1465 to fortify the manor-house of Bury, afterwards known as the Castle.³⁵

At the beginning of last century three courts leet were held annually for the manor of Bury—in April, at Whitsuntide, and in October; a court baron was held every three weeks for the recovery of debts under 40s.³⁶

had been recovered by his servants proclamation was, 'as usual, made in the market of Bury, and they were delivered to their owners'; *Duchy Plead.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), i, 84-8. The earl was said to hold the manor of Bury, 'to be one of the four judgers' at every court held within the lordship of Tottington; *Duchy of Lanc. Dep.* xii, G 1a.

The manors of Bury and Pilkington with the advowson of Bury were among the dower lands of Charlotte, Countess of Derby, in 1652, and she was allowed to compound for them. The 'old rents' of Bury in 1640 amounted to £163 8s. 9d., and the tolls of fairs and markets to £10; *Royalist Comp. Papers* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), ii, 182, 184.

³³ The manor of Pilkington, the advowson of Bury, &c., were included in a settlement by William, Earl of Derby, in 1677; *Pal. of Lanc. Feet of F. bde.* 199, m. 55. The advowson of Bury and other properties were in the hands of John, Earl of Anglesey, and Henrietta Maria his wife in 1708; *ibid.* bde. 260, m. 53. The manors of Bury and Pilkington, with the advowson of Bury, were included in a general arrangement in 1715; *ibid.* bde. 276, m. 71. The manors of Bury and Pilkington and the 'perpetual advowson, presentation, donation, and the free disposition of the church of Bury' were likewise included in a recovery of the estates of Edward, Earl of Derby, the first of the Bickerstaffe line, in 1747; *Pal. of Lanc. Plea R.* 567, m. 3. There were similar recoveries in 1776 and 1797; *ibid.* R. 623, m. 1a; *Assize R.* 10, Aug. Assizes, 37 Geo. III.

³⁴ Henry VI about 1440 granted to Sir John Pilkington a weekly market on Friday and two fairs of three days each at the feasts of St. George and the Nativity of Our Lady; *Raines MSS.* (Chet. Lib.), xxxviii, fol. 1.

Edward IV seems to have confirmed or varied this grant to Thomas Pilkington; *Lancs. and Ches. Rec.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), ii, 299. In the 17th and 18th centuries Thursday was the market day.

Thomas Chetham of Nuthurst complained that having been appointed (?in 1521) bailiff of the manors of Bury and Pilkington for eighteen years during the minority of the heir, he had exercised his office till 22 April, 'on which day yearly time out of mind hath been a fair within the said manor of Bury'; but John Greenhalgh and about six score 'misruled and riotous persons,' provided with bills, gleaves, batts, staves, swords, and bucklers, assaulted at the toll booth, commanded him 'not to be so hardy nor further to intermeddle in the said office of bailiwick,' and made a solemn cry in the fair that all should obey only the orders of

John Greenhalgh, as deputy bailiff of Sir Richard Tempest; *Clowes D.*

In 1826 the Thursday market had long been obsolete, but custom had established one on Saturday. Fairs were held on 5 March, 3 May, and 18 September; *Baines, Lancs. Dir.* i, 581.

³⁵ *Dep. Keeper's Rep.* xxxvii, App. 179; licence to Thomas Pilkington to build, fortify, and castellate a mansion within his manor of Bury. It appears to have fallen into decay very quickly, as Leland about 1535 speaks of it as a ruin; *Itin.* vii, 49.

It 'stood in Castle croft, close to the town, on the banks of the old course of the Irwell'; *Baines, Dir.* i, 576. The 'old course' is represented by the boundary of the township of Elton. There is a plan in Aikin's *Country Round Manchester*, 269; and a description of remains found in 1864 in *Trans. Hist. Soc.* xx, 17-20; and see *Lancs. and Ches. Antig. Soc.* xxii, 152. Some of the stones, showing the masons' marks, have been built into the walls of the volunteer drill hall.

³⁶ *Baines, Dir.* i, 580.

³⁷ Alan son of William de Bury is named in 1357; *Duchy of Lanc. Assize R.* 6, m. 1d.

James Bury, who died about 1515, had various messuages and lands in Bury, Middleton, and Tottington, held of the king as of his duchy of Lancaster by the sixth part of a knight's fee; Ralph, the son and heir, aged forty in 1521, had been an idiot from his birth, and his uncle Rawlin, brother of James, was the next heir; *Duchy of Lanc. Inq. p.m.* v, no. 34. Ralph died in 1539, and was succeeded by his cousin Gilbert, son of Rawlin; *ibid.* viii, no. 24.

There is nothing to show in what part of the manor (or parish) of Bury their lands were situated.

³⁸ Henry de Bury in 1309 claimed 4 acres of land and half an acre of meadow against Robert del Bridge; *De Banco R.* 179, m. 206 d.; and three years afterwards the defendant called upon John son and heir of John de Heaton to warrant him; *ibid.* R. 195, m. 219 d. It was found that John, the heir, was a minor, and the case was adjourned till he should be of age; *ibid.* R. 198, m. 36 d.

Geoffrey del Bridge in 1313-14 claimed common of pasture in Bury against Henry de Bury, Hugh son of Thomas de Longworth, and others; but it was shown that Geoffrey had no land except an appurtenance from the waste, to which common of pasture did not pertain; *Assize R.* 424, m. 1.

³⁹ Geoffrey son of John del Holt in 1345 purchased a messuage and lands from Henry de Broxop (Broksoppe) and Margery his wife; *Final Conc.* ii, 121.

Robert del Holt of 'Chesum' is named in 1428-9; *ibid.* iii, 125.

A family bearing the local surname long continued to have lands within the parish;³⁷ they may have been descended from the former lords of the manor. The bridge appears to have given a surname to a resident family.³⁸ *CHESHAM*, sometimes called a manor, was once owned by the Holts of Stubble.³⁹ A family named Allen formerly lived at Redvales.⁴⁰ Haslum also occurs.⁴¹ The Hulmes of Davyhulme had property in Bury.⁴²

A petition for the delimitation of the bounds of Bury and Middleton was addressed to the Chancellor of the Duchy about 1520.⁴³

The custom of the county as to the distribution of the goods of intestates led to disputes in the latter

In the inquisition (1555) after the death of Robert Holt of Stubble, his lands in Bury are stated to have been held of the Crown by knight's service; *Duchy of Lanc. Inq. p.m.* x, no. 48. Robert Holt, his nephew and heir, who died two years later, settled a part of his land in Chesham and Bury on his wife Cecily for her life; *ibid.* x, no. 7. The succeeding Robert Holt, who died 1561, held his lands in Bury of the Earl of Derby in socage by a rent of 4s. 4d. for all services; *ibid.* xi, no. 15. John Holt of Stubble, who died in 1622, held the 'manors' of Naden and Chesham; *Lancs. Inq. p.m.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), iii, 336.

Chesham for over a century descended with Naden (and Stubble); *Pal. of Lanc. Feet of F. bde.* 63, no. 177; 198, m. 92. In 1708 the manor of Chesham, with lands, houses, water-mill, horse-mill, dovecote, &c., in Chesham, Bury, Tottington, Elton, Middleton, &c., were the subject of a settlement by James Holt, Dorothy [Grantham] his wife, Vincent Grantham, and Edward Jodrell the elder; *ibid.* bde. 261, m. 84.

⁴⁰ Captain John Allen was summoned by the heralds in 1664; *Dugdale, Visit. p.v.* There is a pedigree in *Raines' MSS.* (Chet. Lib.), xxxi, fol. 84, 85, from which it appears that John Allen had a son Richard, whose daughter Elizabeth married William Dawson of Manchester, and was the mother of James Dawson, executed for participation in the rebellion of 1745. Captain Allen's daughter Dorothy was mother of John Byrom of Kersal.

⁴¹ Isabel wife of John de Wakefield in 1313-14 claimed Haslum against Henry de Bury and Richard Spacald; *Assize R.* 424, m. 1.

Robert Nevill, son and heir of Sir Thomas, by William Bradford his guardian, complained in 1429 that Sir John Pilkington had disseised him of three messuages, 200 acres of land, &c., in Bury and Haslum, held of Sir John in socage, by the service of 1d. a year, and grinding his corn without culture at the mill of Bury. Sir John replied that the tenure was knight's service, and that Robert, being a minor, was his ward. The jury, however, found for the plaintiff; *Pal. of Lanc. Plea R.* 2, m. 21.

Adam de Haslum occurs in 1256; *Final Conc.* i, 120. The surname continued to be common in the district. Haslam Brow lies to the south of Bury; Haslam Hey is in Elton.

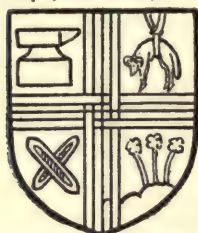
⁴² *Final Conc.* iii, 102; *Duchy of Lanc. Inq. p.m.* xviii, no. 9. The land was called Quistondene, and was perhaps in Walmersley; there are deeds about it (1276 and 1427) in Court of Wards, Deeds and Evidences, box 153, no. 1, 7.

⁴³ *Duchy Plead.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), ii, 239.

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part of the same century.⁴⁴ There were also disputes as to the mills.⁴⁵

The township was formerly governed **BOROUGH** by the constables appointed at the manor court at Whitsuntide.⁴⁶ In 1846, however, the inhabitants obtained an Improve-



BOROUGH OF BURY.
Quarterly argent and azure a cross double parted, fretted and counterchanged between, in the first quarter an anvil sable, in the second a fleece or, in the third two shuttles crossed saltirewise of the fourth, and in the fourth quarter a papyrus plant proper.

ment Act, under which the government was entrusted to twenty-seven commissioners elected by the ratepayers;⁴⁷ and after thirty years a royal charter was granted incorporating a borough.⁴⁸ The council consists of a mayor, ten aldermen, and thirty councillors. The area, more extensive than the old township,⁴⁹ is divided into five wards—Church, Redvales, East, Moor-side, and Elton, each electing six councillors. Bury became a parliamentary borough on the passing of the Reform Act of 1832; it returns one member.⁵⁰ The municipal and parliamentary boroughs are conterminous. Bury became a county borough in 1888. A coat of arms was granted in 1877.

Gas⁵¹ and water⁵² were formerly supplied by private companies, but are now under public control. The corporation have established electric lighting works and work the electric tramways. The market, formerly held in the open square by the church, was in 1841 transferred to an inclosure erected by the Earl of Derby, who received the tolls; it was roofed with glass in 1867,⁵³ and, with the market rights, became the property of the town in 1872. The present market was built in 1901. The Town Hall was erected by the Earl of Derby in 1850. The Improvement Commissioners and Corporation have

provided baths, recreation grounds, art gallery,⁵⁴ library, and technical schools,⁵⁵ fire brigade, abattoirs, a cemetery, opened in 1866–9,⁵⁶ and an infectious diseases hospital. The Bury Hospital and Dispensary are due to private benevolence.⁵⁷

The Athenæum, began in 1836 as a mechanics' institution, was built in 1850; it has a library, reading and other rooms, and a large hall for meetings.⁵⁸

Bury County Court district was formed in 1847.⁵⁹

The parish church was adequate for the established worship until 1770, when St. John's was built on glebe land called Listerfield; a district was assigned to it in 1860.⁶⁰ St. Paul's, built in 1841, had a district assigned two years later.⁶¹ Holy Trinity, opened in 1863, had also to wait two years for a legal district.⁶² St. Thomas's was built by Thomas Openshaw, a local benefactor, in 1866,⁶³ St. Peter's, Redvales, in 1872,⁶⁴ and St. Mark's, Freetown, in 1883.⁶⁵ The rector of Bury holds the patronage of all these churches except St. Paul's, which is in the gift of five trustees.

John Wesley visited Bury seven times, the first in 1774, the last in 1778. The Wesleyan Methodists have two churches, the Primitive Methodists one, and the United Methodist Church six, of which Brunswick, the principal, was opened in 1837 and rebuilt in 1862.⁶⁶

The Baptists have three churches.⁶⁷

The Congregationalists began services about 1790, the first chapel, now known as New Road Chapel, being opened in 1793; it was rebuilt in 1884–5. A second, Bethel, was started by a secession from the former in 1804, due probably to a desire for more liberal doctrine; the chapel was built in 1807, and enlarged in 1882. A second secession led to the building of Castlecroft Church in 1837–40. The chapel at Blackford Bridge originated with services in 1869; a school chapel was opened in 1875, and on this being destroyed by fire, the present building was erected in 1888.⁶⁸

There are also a Welsh Calvinistic Methodist

⁴⁴ Lawrence Grime of Shropshire alleged that children of intestate parents in Lancashire ought to have the clear estate divided equally among them, except an heir had been declared or some promotion or advancement had been made to some of the children during the parents' lives. The custom was denied by Oliver Grimes; *Duchy of Lanc. Plead. civ. G, 8; cvii, G, 4.*

⁴⁵ *Ducatus Lanc. (Rec. Com.), iii, 325; Lancs. and Ches. Rec. ii, 267.* These disputes appear to have been renewed in the latter part of the 17th century; *Raines MSS. xxxi, fol. 342–4.*

The will of James Greenhalgh (1524), lessee of Bury Mill, is printed in *Piccoppe, Wills (Chet. Soc.), ii, 203.*

⁴⁶ *Baines, Lancs. (ed. 1836), ii, 673.*

⁴⁷ 9 & 10 Vict. cap. 293. The Local Government Act of 1858 was adopted between 1864 and 1870; *Lond. Gaz.* 16 Aug. 1864; 20 Nov. 1866; 8 July 1870. Other Improvement Acts were passed in 1872 (increasing the number of commissioners to thirty, and giving further powers) and 1882; 35 & 36 Vict. cap. 146; 45 & 46 Vict. cap. 170.

⁴⁸ Dated 9 Sept. 1876.

⁴⁹ See a former note.

⁵⁰ The members have almost invariably been Liberals; *Pink and Beaven, Parl. Repre. of Lancs. 327–30.* In the early part of last century there was a great variety

of political parties—Painites, Jacobins, Rumpers, Republicans, Carlilites, and Chartists; *Barton, Bury, 7.* The story of the earlier elections is told in the same work, 165–91.

⁵¹ Gas was made as early as 1818; *Barton, Bury, 101.* The gasworks, first erected by a private company formed in 1828, were purchased by the Improvement Commissioners in 1857. The streets had been lighted with gas from 1836.

⁵² The Bury and Radcliffe Waterworks Company, formed in 1838, supplied water, but its works were acquired by the Improvement Commissioners, and passed to the corporation. The Bury and District Joint Water Board, formed in 1900, now owns the works, which have numerous reservoirs.

⁵³ *Baines, Lancs. (ed. 1868), i, 522.* A Market Act was passed in 1834.

⁵⁴ It contains the Wrigley collection of pictures, &c.

⁵⁵ Opened in 1894.

⁵⁶ The Commissioners became the burial board in 1864 (*Lond. Gaz.* 14 June).

⁵⁷ The first dispensary is said to have been due to Rector John Stanley; the present institution was founded in 1829. The hospital was built in 1882, and enlarged in 1893.

⁵⁸ *Baines, Lancs. (ed. 1868), i, 522; Barton, Bury, 127.*

⁵⁹ *Lond. Gaz.* 10 Mar. 1847.

⁶⁰ *Ibid.* 25 Jan. 1860. The original provisions as to the pews are given in *Barton, Bury, 150, 152.*

⁶¹ For endowment see *Lond. Gaz.* 28 July 1863. The site was given by Lord Derby; *Barton, Bury, 153, 154.*

⁶² *Lond. Gaz.* 6 Feb. 1866; endowments, *ibid.* 11 May 1866, and 30 July 1869. The schools were erected about 1849, and service was held in them from 1861; *Barton, Bury, 154.*

⁶³ For district see *Lond. Gaz.* 21 May 1867; *Barton, Bury, 155.*

⁶⁴ For district see *Lond. Gaz.* 11 Feb. 1873; *Barton, Bury, 156.*

⁶⁵ The Sunday school began in a room in Hudcar Mill in 1826; in 1850 a school building was erected and service was held in it; *Barton, Bury, 156, 157.*

⁶⁶ The Wesleyan Methodist chapel in Union Street was built in 1815–17; it has a burial-ground. The New Connexion had a chapel in Bury Lane in 1813; the Primitive Methodists opened a preaching-room in 1824; *Baines, Lancs. Dir. i, 577.* The present Primitive Methodist chapel was opened in 1866. For particulars as to the United Methodist Free Church see *Barton, Bury, 159.*

⁶⁷ That in Tenterden Street dates from 1845; that at Chesham from 1881.

⁶⁸ Full details are given in *Nightingale, Lancs. Nonconf. iii, 185–210.*

church and a Free Christian church; this last originated in a change of the views of the Rev. Franklin Howorth, the Unitarian minister.⁶⁹ The Salvation Army has a barracks.

In Bury, as in many other places, the earliest chapel opened by Protestant Nonconformists is now held by Unitarians. Silver Street Chapel was erected in 1719,⁷⁰ and the teaching became Arian or Unitarian about 1790, this no doubt leading to the first Congregational meeting above recorded. The old chapel was replaced by another in Silver Street in 1837, and this again having been injured by the construction of the railway, by the present one in Bank Street in 1852.⁷¹ The Unitarians have also a cemetery and mortuary chapel at Hole Bottom.

The followers of Joanna Southcote had a meeting-room in Bury in 1829.⁷² The Swedenborgians opened a New Jerusalem chapel in 1860, but it has been abandoned.

The Roman Catholic church of Our Blessed Lady was built in 1842,⁷³ and St. Joseph's in 1871.

ELTON

Elton, 1275.

This L-shaped township stretches westward from Bury for about 3 miles, and northward for 2½ miles, and has an area of 2,553 acres.¹ The part near Bury has long been urban, and indistinguishable from Bury proper except by the Irwell's course. The surface in the western limb rises gradually till 800 ft. is attained in the north-west corner at Bowstone Hill; in this portion are Elton proper and Walshaw Lane. The northern limb, bounded on the east by the Irwell, also rises to the west, over 400 ft. being attained; this portion contains Brandlesholme in the centre, with Woodhill to the south and Summerseat to the north. The population of the registration district was 13,997 in 1901.

⁶⁹ *Lancs. Noncon.* iii, 182, 183; he became a Trinitarian.

⁷⁰ The expenses of the building are given in Raines MSS. (Chet. Lib.), xxxi, fol. 436.

⁷¹ Nightingale, op. cit. iii, 178-84.

⁷² J. Butterworth, *Bury* (reprint, 1902), 11.

⁷³ There was, however, a chapel about 1829; *ibid.* 'In 1821 there were not more than five Catholic families in the town, when mass was said once a month in the upper room of a wool warehouse. In 1834 the first resident priest was appointed'; Kelly, *Engl. Cath. Mission*, 111.

¹ 2,079, including 77 of inland water; *Census Rep.* 1901.

² Subs. R. bdle. 250, no. 9, Lancs.

³ The final change was made in 1894; Local Govt. Bd. Order 31671.

⁴ Alexander de Elton and Richard his son were defendants to a claim made by Adam de Bury in 1278; it was shown that Adam was never in seisin of the tenement in dispute; Assize R. 1238, m. 32.

⁵ Elton Carr is named in a Pilkington feoffment of 1435; Raines MSS. (Chet. Lib.), xxxviii, fol. 9.

⁶ The name appears to be Brandulf's holme. Gilbert son of Brandulf and Matthew his brother were in 1253-4 among a number of Bury people who had evaded the suits of mill claimed by Adam de Bury; Curia Regis R. 154, m. 16d., 17. John son of Richard de Brandlesholme (?) had a grant of fruits at the

Rhodes in 1281; Harl. MS. 2112, fol. 155/191.

Henry de Hull and Margaret his wife claimed messuages and lands in 'Brandolfestone' in 1305 against Richard, son of Juliana, daughter of Richard de Brandlesholme; De Banco R. 154, m. 146d.

Richard son of Henry del Hill in 1343 gave all his land in Cecilyhalgh and Woodridding in the hamlet of Brandlesholme in the vill of Bury to Henry de Bury; Towneley MS. DD, no. 847.

⁷ They were the hereditary bailiffs; Whitaker, *Whalley*, i, 327.

Maud de Greenhalgh contributed to the subsidy in Tottington in 1332; *Exc. Lay Subs.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), 37.

John de Greenhalgh, serjeant of Tottington, occurs in 1351 and later in the disputes concerning the succession to Sir Henry de Bury's manor and lands; Duchy of Lanc. Assize R. 1, m. 7d.; R. 4, m. 28d. John de Greenhalgh was wounded at Bury in 1343 by John de Buckden; Assize R. 430, m. 16.

The surname has a great variety of spellings—Grenehalth, Greneholl, Grenoll, Greenall, Greenhaugh, Greenhough, Greenough, &c. It is probably derived from some place in Tottington, as stated in the pedigree recorded in 1664. Another branch of the family had lands in Tottington, as will appear later.

⁸ *Final Conc.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), iii, 50, 52. The estate consisted

From Bury Bridge the roads spread out to the north, north-west, west, and south-west, to Haslingden, Blackburn, and Bolton. The Lancashire and Yorkshire Company's Bolton and Bury line crosses the south-eastern corner. The Bury and Bolton Canal, opened in 1796, starts in this township near Bury Bridge, and proceeds along the western bank of the Irwell; there is a large reservoir for it on the border of Elton and Radcliffe.

In 1666 there were seventy-five hearths to contribute to the tax, including Thomas Greenhalgh's house with twelve, Thomas Symonds's, six, and Roger Kay's of Woodhill, six.⁹

The cotton manufacture is the chief industry, with bleaching and dyeing; there are iron-foundries and paper-works.

The Wellington Barracks are the dépôt of the 20th Regimental District Lancashire Fusiliers.

The recreation ground was the gift of Mr. Henry Whitehead of Haslem Hey.

Elton has now disappeared as a township, the greater part having been added to the borough of Bury, but part to Ainsworth and other townships.²

There does not appear to have been any manor of *ELTON*, although in the 13th century a family occurs bearing the local surname.⁴ Elton was considered a hamlet of Bury, and its manorial history is involved in the latter's.⁵

The estate of *BRANDLES HOLME* in Elton, however, was called a manor. Its early possessors⁶ gave way to the Greenhalghs, who retained it till the beginning of the 18th century. But little is known of this family, who are said to have sprung up in Tottington,⁷ until the 16th century. Henry de Greenhalgh and Alice his wife made settlements of their estate in Bury and Tottington in 1397 and 1398.⁸ Thomas Greenhalgh died at Brandlesholme

of three messuages, 48 acres of (arable) land, &c., in Bury and Tottington; the remainders were to John and to Geoffrey, sons of Henry and Alice; to Alice and Margery, daughters of Thomas son of Thomas de Barlow (in moieties), and to John son of William de Elton; and to the right heirs of Alice the wife of Henry.

Henry de Greenhalgh and Alice his wife in 1401 unsuccessfully claimed the guardianship of the heir of Robert del Holt, Robert's wife having been Alice daughter of Alice by a former husband, Thomas de Barlow. John, the son of Henry and Alice, is named; Pal. of Lanc. Plea R. 1, m. 24b. Henry was a juror in 1387 and 1394; *Lancs. Inq. p.m.* (Chet. Soc.), i, 27, 49. Robert de Greenhalgh occurs similarly in 1406; *ibid.* i, 88.

Geoffrey de Greenhalgh, aged forty, was a witness to the age of John de Radcliffe of Chadderton in 1415; *Lancs. Rec. Inq. p.m.* no. 19, 20. James son of Geoffrey de Greenhalgh the elder was interested in the succession to lands in Moston in 1427; *Lancs. Inq. p.m.* (Chet. Soc.) ii, 18; while in 1419 James the son and heir of Geoffrey de Greenhalgh—no doubt the same person—had claimed lands in Bury, with appurtenances at Blackburn (perhaps in Tottington), and obtained an *Inspecimus* of the record in 1444-5; *Dep. Keeper's Rep.* xl, App. 538.

In 1425 the trustees of James sons of Geoffrey Greenhalgh granted him lands in Horwich with successive remainders as follows: To John son of Henry

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on 18 July 1576, holding the manor, with various messuages and lands, of Henry, Earl of Derby, as lord of Bury, in socage by a rent of 2s. a year. John his son and heir was about twenty-six years of age.⁹ John Greenhalgh was buried on



GREENHALGH of Brandlesholme. *Argent on a bend sable three hunting-horns stringed of the field.*

21 January 1614-15;¹⁰ but his son Thomas had died in 1591,¹¹ leaving an infant son John to succeed his grandfather. The family were in the service of the Earls of Derby,¹² and John Greenhalgh was in 1640 appointed Governor of the Isle of Man;¹³ and holding this office at the time of the Civil War, his estates in Lancashire were seized by the Parliamentary authorities. He died in the island 16 September 1651,¹⁴ and was

succeeded by his grandson Thomas, son of Richard Greenhalgh, born in 1633.¹⁵

Thomas Greenhalgh recorded a pedigree in 1664,¹⁶ and married Elizabeth elder child of Dr. Henry Bridgeman, Dean of Chester and Bishop of Man, by whom he had a large family.¹⁷ He was sheriff of the county in 1667-8.¹⁸ In his will, dated 1692, John his son is named as the heir,¹⁹ but appears to have died without issue, as Henry, another son, is described as of Brandlesholme in 1728. On his dying intestate, administration was in that year granted to his daughters Fanny and Anne.²⁰ The manor descended to Elizabeth wife of Samuel Matthews, who in 1732, and again in 1742, made settlements of it.²¹ In 1770 Joseph Matthews and Elizabeth Matthews, widow, were two of the vouches in a recovery of Brandlesholme and the other estates.²² About that time it was sold to Richard Powell of Heaton Norris, a merchant. In 1849 Brandlesholme

Greenhalgh; Henry son of the said John; Rayner Greenhalgh and Thurstan his brother; Robert and Thomas, sons of William Greenhalgh; Geoffrey son of John Greenhalgh; Thomas and Ralph, sons of Roger Greenhalgh; and Robert son of Thomas Greenhalgh; Anderton Evidences (Mr. Stonor), no. 1.

Edmund Greenhalgh attested a charter in 1462; Dods. MSS. cxlii, fol. 164b, no. 18. He in 1479, being described as of Brandlesholme, obtained a general pardon; Add. MS. 32108, no. 1443. He seems to have been charged with a share in the death of Thurstan Kay; Pal. of Lanc. Plea R. 32, m. 7 d. In 1500 he was relieved from attendance on juries; Towneley MS. CC, no. 690. In the same year Thomas Greenhalgh, son and heir apparent of Edmund, became bound in £200 to Robert Langley of Agecroft, probably in connexion with the marriage between his son John and Anne Langley recorded in the pedigree; Agecroft D. 93.

In 1519 John Greenhalgh, as bailiff of Tottington, made a complaint of various trespasses and offences against the customs of the fee; *Duchy Plead.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), i, 84; see also ii, 108. In 1525 he complained that Thomas Buckley, who had a lease of lands from him in Tottington, had made waste therein; Pal. of Lanc. Plea R. 145, m. 4 d. He was the leader in disturbances in Bury Church in 1526; *Duchy Plead.* i, 151. He died in 1555 or 1556, leaving a son and heir Thomas of lawful age; *Manch. Ct. Leet Rec.* i, 29. John's widow Anne died at the beginning of 1567; her will contains a number of family bequests, including some to her son Thomas. To John Greenhalgh (probably her grandson) and his wife she left, among other things, a chalice with a paten and all things belonging unto the chapel, which were to descend as heirlooms with Brandlesholme; Hugh Hardman (not named in the Visitation Lists) seems to have been the resident priest; *Picope, Wills* (Chet. Soc.), ii, 136-8.

A settlement of the manor of Brandlesholme, with lands in Bury, Moston, Newton, Collyhurst, Horwich, and Spotland, was made by Thomas Greenhalgh in 1556; Pal. of Lanc. Feet of F. bdle. 17, m. 137.

⁹ Duchy of Lanc. Inq. p.m. xii, no. 10; it is recited that the recovery of 1556 was in consideration of a marriage between John son and heir of the said Thomas

Greenhalgh, and Alice daughter of Robert Holt of Stubley, the remainder being to John and Alice and their heirs. See *Manch. Ct. Leet Rec.* i, 180, where there is a note of Thomas's will. John Greenhalgh, the heir, did not attend the Manchester court to do his service until 1585; *ibid.* i, 184, 235, 253.

A settlement of the Brandlesholme estate, including three fulling mills, was made in 1591 by John Greenhalgh, Alice his wife, and Thomas the son and heir apparent; Pal. of Lanc. Feet of F. bdle. 53, m. 295.

¹⁰ Bury Reg.

¹¹ He was buried 17 Sept.; *ibid.* An inquisition was made in 1599, when it was found that John the father was seised of the manor of Brandlesholme and other estates, and had in 1585 made a settlement on the marriage of his son Thomas with Mary daughter of Robert Holt. Thomas died 16 Sept. 1591, leaving a son John, two years of age; John the father and Alice his wife were in 1599 living at Brandlesholme, and Mary the widow of Thomas was living at Middleton; Duchy of Lanc. Inq. p.m. xvi, no. 61.

¹² The seventh earl, in his praise of Captain John Greenhalgh, says: 'His ancestors have formerly dwelt in my house. . . . This certainly might breed a desire in the man that the house where his predecessors have served might still flourish'; *Stanley Papers* (Chet. Soc.), iii (B), 12.

¹³ *Ibid.* 11, 12; the earl praises him for his government of the island, stating that he was 'a gentleman well born,' having 'a good estate of his own,' which he had managed well; also that he had done 'his king and country good service' and been 'approved valiant.' He concludes: 'He is such that I thank God for him.' See further accounts by Canon Raines, *ibid.* pp. cxxxii-cxxxiv, and *Ashton's Journ.* (Chet. Soc.), 6. He paid £25 in 1631 on refusing knighthood; *Misc.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), i, 216.

¹⁴ He is traditionally supposed to have fought at Worcester, distinguishing himself by his bravery; see *Dict. Nat. Biog.*

¹⁵ *Royalist Comp. Papers* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), iii, 107-15 (John Greenhalgh), 115-27 (Thomas Greenhalgh). Alice Greenhalgh, widow of John, had been the wife of Richard Burgh of Larbreck, and was sister of Thomas

Chaderton of Lees; she petitioned for her lands. Nothing is said about her husband having fought at Worcester. The agreement for the marriage of Richard son of John Greenhalgh with Alice daughter of Edward Rawstorne was made in 1631, and is printed at length. Richard died in Jan. 1635-6, being buried at the parish church on the 19th. Thomas Greenhalgh, the son and heir, petitioned for a declaration of his title to the manor, his grandfather's name having been included in the third of the Acts of Sale, 1652; Peacock, *Index of Royalists* (Index Soc.), 41.

¹⁶ Dugdale, *Visit.* (Chet. Soc.), 124-6.

¹⁷ Ormerod, *Ches.* (ed. Helsby), i, 267. In 1682 Thomas Greenhalgh of Brandlesholme and his sons John, Henry, Orlando, and Richard, were made burgesses at the Preston Guild; *Pres. Guild Rolls* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), 186.

Adam Martindale relates that having about 1670 kept 'a day of preaching and prayer' in 'a dark corner' of the parish, Dean Bridgeman being at his son-in-law's house, and hearing of it, caused an arrest to be made. 'I was carried before the reverend Dean, who, knowing me well, said he wondered that I would expose myself to the lash of the law for conventicling, and that under his nose.' However, 'after some other discourse in a loving and familiar way he dismissed me, pretending kindness to me for my Lord Delamere's sake.' On a trial the charge was dismissed; *Adam Martindale* (Chet. Soc.), 104-5.

Oliver Heywood also has allusions to Thomas Greenhalgh's relations with the Nonconformists; *Diaries*, i, 253; ii, 223.

¹⁸ P.R.O. List, 73.

¹⁹ Raines MSS. (Chet. Lib.), xvi, fol. 389; in 1705 Henry and Orlando were the sole surviving executors. Henry Greenhalgh of Brandlesholme acquired Dauntsey Warth in 1704; *ibid.* xxii, 453. Thomas Greenhalgh died 15 Jan. 1691-2; Bury Reg.

²⁰ Raines MSS. xvi, 391.

²¹ Pal. of Lanc. Feet of F. bdle. 307, m. 153; 329, m. 111.

²² Pal. of Lanc. Plea R. 612, m. 6; Robert Nuttall, merchant, was the other vouchee. The estate is described as the manor or lordship of Brandlesholme and lands, &c., in Elton, Tottington, Walmersley, Kersal, Pendlebury, Preesall, Stalmine, Hackinsall, and Stainall.

belonged to his grandson, Captain Henry Folliott Powell.²³

BRANDLESHOLME HALL stands on high ground a mile and a half north of Elton, to the west of the road to Holcombe Brook, and is now a house of little or no interest, modern rebuilding and repairs having deprived it of all its architectural features. It was formerly a good specimen of the half-timber gabled houses of the district, built on a low stone base, and erected probably in the 16th century with a later stone wing with mullioned windows at the north end. The greater part of the external timber-work, however, appears to have perished or have been otherwise destroyed before the middle of the last century, when the house seems to have been in a more or less dilapidated state, the principal front, which faces the east, being then patched with plaster and modern sash windows introduced.^{23a} In 1852 the south end was taken down and rebuilt in brick and stucco, no attempt being made to reproduce the former style, and the rest of the building being very much dilapidated was repaired in 1908 in a manner more resembling in style the work of 1852 than that of the original building. Externally, therefore, the house, which has long been divided into two, preserves nothing of its ancient appearance, a portion of stone walling on the north, some brickwork at the back (west), and a few stone slabs on the roofs, which have been renewed with blue slates, being all the old work now left. The interior, however, exhibits a good deal of the timber construction, and the hall preserves its wide open fireplace and original oak ceiling beams. In another room is a portion of a ceiling with well-moulded oak beams, and other portions of old timber-work still remain. But the general aspect of the house, inside as well as out, is wholly modernized, and new rooms have been added. On the north-east is a stone barn, and in a corner of the grounds on the south-west side at the end of a terrace approached by eight stone steps are the remains of a small stone building, locally said to have



POWELL of Brandlesholme. Gules a lion rampant within a bordure engrailed or.

been a chapel, but more probably a summer-house, with the initials H.G. (Henry Greenhalgh) and the date 1709 on the door-head.

The Hospitallers owned Haslem Hey, which about 1540 was tenanted by Edward Earl of Derby, at a rent of 12d.²⁴ The Holts of Stubble held it of the earl.²⁵

CHAMBER HALL, on the border of Bury, appears to have been at one time the residence of a Greenhalgh family,²⁶ and then of the Kays.²⁷ The place was leased to Robert Peel, who there established his great cotton-printing works. His son, the celebrated statesman, was born in the house or in an adjacent cottage.²⁸ It is a question debated locally whether Sir Robert or his younger brother was born in this cottage during some repairs or additions at the hall; these additions, which were probably the new brick front, may not have been begun till after Sir Robert's birth.²⁹ The hall was used as a Baptist college from 1866 to 1874.³⁰

It was situated about 400 yds. directly north of Bury market-place, on low ground at the foot of the plateau on which the old town of Bury was built, and not far from the left bank of the Irwell. The railway, going north from Bury, passed close to it on the east, and its surroundings, which had been growing less attractive for the last thirty years, were somewhat squalid. In 1825, however, the house is described as standing 'amid fertile fields,'³¹ and the position was no doubt originally a pleasant one. Of the 17th-century house only a small portion remained, at the back or north side; the front part, which was built of brick and dated from the latter part of the 18th century, forming the larger and principal portion of the building. The old house was of three stories, was built of thin rough coursed stones with dressed angle quoins, and retained its old mullioned and transomed windows with label mouldings, one at the east end on the third floor having eight lights. The roof was covered with stone slates, and in the north wall was a stone with an inscription very much worn, dated 1611. The later addition was of the same height but of two stories, breaking the west gable of the old building, and had a very plain brick elevation, with a central doorway and two sash windows on each side on the ground floor, and five similar windows above.³² The house

²³ There are rival accounts in the notes in *Asibeton's Journ.* 5, 6; see also *Notitia Cestr.* ii, 29. Francis Mathew, created Earl of Llandaff in 1797, who is stated to have sold Brandlesholme, was the son of Thomas Mathew (who died in 1777) by a daughter of Richard Mathews of Dublin; *G.E.C. Complete Peerage*, v, 126.

^{23a} *Pictorial Hist. of Lancs.* 1844, p. 247, where there is an illustration of the building at that date. The writer says: 'The gables seem to have formerly been adorned with tracery, some vestige of which still remains. The chimneys are both very ancient and very ample. Modern repairs detract from the uniformity and beauty of the edifice.'

²⁴ Kuerden MSS., v, fol. 84.

²⁵ *Lancs. Inq. p.m.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), iii, 336.

²⁶ Thomas and James Greenhalgh of Chamber occur in the early part of the 17th century; *Bury Reg.* A Bury family also lived there; *ibid.*

²⁷ James Kay of Chamber Hall in Elton in 1711 sold land in Castlecroft to Robert Nuttall; Raines MSS. (Chet. Lib.), xxxi, fol. 350.

²⁸ The history of the Peel family belongs to Blackburn. A description of the works in 1795 is given in Aikin, *Country round Manchester*, 268-9.

Robert Peel was selected by Messrs. Haworth (his uncle) and Yates as their junior partner and manager of the works established at Bury about 1770. He acquired a large fortune. He was made a baronet in 1800, and died in 1830; Abram, *Blackburn*, 220; Barton, *Bury*, 49-96; *Lancs. and Ches. Hist. and Gen. Notes*, i, 130; *Local Gleanings Lancs. and Ches.* i, 205; *Dict. Nat. Biog.*

Sir Robert Peel, the statesman, was his eldest son, and was born in 1788. His public career, which was not directly connected with Lancashire, began when he was twenty-one, his father having bought

for him the representation of Cashel, for which he sat as a Tory. In 1817 he was elected for the University of Oxford, and afterwards represented other constituencies. In 1810 he was under-secretary for war and the colonies, and was in office almost continuously for twenty years; prime minister, 1834-5; built up the Conservative party; prime minister, 1841-6, when he pursued the policy of repealing duties; continued in his great work of the repeal of the corn laws, 1846. He refused the Garter. He died 29 June 1850, having been thrown from his horse; *Dict. Nat. Biog.*

²⁹ See letter by Viscount Peel in a Bury newspaper, June 1899, quoted by *Manch. Guardian*, 1 Feb. 1908.

³⁰ Barton, *Bury*, 95. The college is now at Rusholme.

³¹ Corry, *Hist. of Lancs.* ii, 658.

³² There is an illustration of the old part of Chamber Hall in *The Pictorial Hist. of Lancs.* 1844, p. 250.

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was pulled down in February 1909, the inscribed stone above referred to being placed in the Bury Museum.

Somerset, now Summerseat, was held by the Rawstornes under the lord of Brandlesholme.³³

Woodhill was long the residence of a family named Kay.³⁴ Roger Kay, the refounder of the grammar school, was of this family.^{34a}

The principal landowners in 1789 were: Powell for Brandlesholme, Peel for Chamber Hall, Richard Bridge, Mrs. Nuttall for Woodhill, and Mrs. Johnson for Seddon's.³⁵

In connexion with the Established Church, All Saints' was built in 1843, and had a separate district assigned to it in 1844.³⁶ St. Stephen's, built in 1881, had a district assigned to it three years later.³⁷ The patronage of these churches is vested in the rector of Bury and the vicar of All Saints' respectively. Christ Church, Walshaw Lane, was built in 1892 as a memorial to Jesse Haworth of Walshaw Mill, who died in 1897, by his sister Miss Nancy Haworth and his nephew the Rev. John Gorell Haworth.

The Wesleyan Methodists have two churches in Elton; the United Methodist Church one; and the Primitive Methodists also one, built in 1868.³⁸

For Roman Catholics the school-chapel of Our Lady of Good Counsel and the Guardian Angels was built in 1886, and a church in 1892.

HEAP

Hepe, 1278; Hewood, 1292.

The greater part of the township of Heap lies on the south bank of the Roch, and has a detached portion, called Whittle, between Pilsworth, Unsworth, and Middleton; but there is also a considerable area to the north of the stream, containing Little Bridge, Bridge Hall, and Broad Oak on the

west, and part of Bamford with Jowkin and Meadowcroft on the east. There are several detached portions, due probably to a division of the wastes between Heap on the one side and Birtle on the other. The area of the whole is 2,938½ acres.¹ The population of the borough of Heywood in 1901 was 25,458.

The principal road is that eastward from Bury across the Roch at Heap Bridge, through Charles-town and Heady Hill,² and the town of Heywood, where it divides, to Rochdale on the north-west and Middleton on the south. Another road from Bury to Rochdale keeps on the northern side of the Roch, and is joined by a cross road from Heywood through Hooley Bridge.³

At Heywood all branches of cotton spinning and manufacture are carried on, and there are iron and brass foundries, saw mills, boiler and wagon works; power looms are made. At Heap Bridge there are great paper mills, and woollen and cotton mills.

An urn containing a large number of Roman coins was found at Plumpton House near Hooley Bridge in 1856.⁴

There were 126 hearths liable to the tax in 1666. The largest dwellings were those of Robert Heywood (with nine hearths), Roger Holt (seven), and William Bamford (six).⁵

Heap has disappeared as a township; the borough of Heywood has taken the larger part within it, and other parts have been added to the neighbouring townships.⁶

The manorial history of Heap is involved with that of Bury, but there are some estates in the hamlet or township which appear to have been considered as manors.⁷

BRIDGE HALL, on the north bank of the Roch,⁸ where the road from Bury to Heywood and Middleton crossed the stream, was long held by a branch

³³ Thurstan Rawstorne in 1583 had two messuages and land in Elton, which he sold or mortgaged to Thomas Warburton; Pal. of Lanc. Feet of F. bde. 45, m. 58. He was a juror in 1604; Lancs. Inq. p.m. (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), i, 28.

Children of William Rawstorne of Summerseat occur in the Bury Registers, 1610 to 1616, and he was buried 8 Dec. 1618. He also occurs as a juror.

Lawrence Rawstorne of Summerseat died early in 1630; administration of his effects was granted to his widow Ellen; Wills (Chet. Soc. new ser.), i, 239.

Thurstan Rawstorne, gentleman, died at Summerseat 1 Dec. 1634, holding three messuages, &c., in Elton of John Greenhalgh of Brandlesholme by the twentieth part of a knight's fee and a yearly rent of 4d. Ellen his daughter and heir was seven years of age. Ellen his widow lived at Bolton; Duchy of Lanc. Inq. p.m. xxviii, no. 38.

A right of way over Summerseat was claimed by Thomas Greenhalgh in 1576 against Thurstan Rawstorne and Lawrence Bury; Ducatus Lanc. (Rec. Com.), iii, 43.

The Old Hall, Summerseat, was about a century ago the residence of Christopher Roberts, an inventor and mathematician; 'in his disposition calm and philosophical he kept aloof from the pursuit of wealth, and died, as he had lived, blameless.' He was a Swedenborgian; Barton, Bury, 245.

³⁴ The name occurs constantly in the Bury Registers. The will of Roger Kay

of 'Wyddall,' dated 1563, mentions his son Arthur; Raines MSS. (Chet. Lib.), xvi, fol. 383. Susan daughter of Richard Kay of 'Widdell' in 1724 married Robert Unsworth of Elton; ibid. xxxi, 290.

^{34a} Roger was the son of Roger Kay, husbandman, of Bury, and entered St. John's College, Cambridge, in 1684, as sizar attending on John the son of Thomas Greenhalgh, who was at the same time admitted as a fellow-commoner; Admissions St. John's Col. ii, 97. He became fellow of the college (1689-92), rector of Fittleton and prebendary of Sarum, and died in 1731; Baker, Hist. St. John's Col. (ed. Mayor), i, 300, 301; Le Neve, Fasti, iii, 666, 669. In 1726 he endowed the grammar school of Bury with Chadwick Hall and other estates in Spotland, a rent-charge on Ewood Hall in Haslingden, &c.; and by his will of 1729 left Ewood and other lands to his nephew Roger Kay; the Warth in Radcliffe to his niece Rachel, wife of Richard Allen, surgeon; his other nieces were Dorothy Sudell, widow, and Susan wife of Roger Kay of Widdall; Char. Rep. of 1828, xix, 217, 221.

From the Bury Registers it appears that Roger Kay of Widdall had sons Richard and Roger, born in 1650 and 1663 respectively; the latter is the benefactor. Richard Kay of Widdall had a son Roger, born in 1692, who is the nephew referred to.

³⁵ Land tax returns at Preston.

³⁶ Lond. Gas. 23 Feb. 1844; for en-

dowments, ibid. 3 May 1844 and 10 Aug. 1866. The site was known as Goose Hill Bank.

³⁷ The schools were erected in 1870.

³⁸ Barton, Bury, 204.

¹ The area of Heywood in 1901 was 3,660 acres, including 51 of inland water, according to the Census Rep.

² Here was the old district or hamlet of Lumhalghs or Lomax.

³ For the mill at this place, stopped in 1861 through disputes in the Fenton family, see Heywood N. and Q. (ed. J. A. Green), i, 37. This publication gathers up a number of notes about persons and places in the district.

⁴ Lancs. and Ches. Antiq. Soc. ix, 166.

⁵ Subsidy R. bde. 250, no. 9 Lancs.

⁶ Under the Divided Parishes Act, 1882, Diggles was transferred from Heap to Birtle-cum-Bamford. The final change was made in 1894 by Local Govt. Bd. Order 31671; Heap is now divided between Heywood, Bury, Birtle-with-Bamford, and Unsworth.

⁷ Heap as a surname occurs, but the connexion of the family with the place is not known.

⁸ In 1278 William son of William del Bridge successfully claimed a messuage and an oxgang of land in Bury against Adam de Bury, Henry son of Cecily de Heap, and others. Roger de Bolton was the plaintiff's predecessor in title; Assize R. 1238, m. 31. It is not clear whether or not this was the Bridge family already noticed in Bury proper.

of the Holt family,⁹ who were succeeded by the Nuttalls;¹⁰ after whom came the Grundys and the Wrigleys, now owners.

BAMFORD, also on the north bank of the stream,¹¹ gave its name to the family which owned it from the 13th to the 19th century. Adam de Bury granted all his lands in Bamford to Alexander de Bamford at a rent of 40d.¹² There is but little record of the family.¹³ Henry son of Thomas de Bamford was

outlawed for debt in 1389, and it was found that he had one messuage at Bamford, held of Sir Roger de Pilkington in socage by the rent of 3s. 6d., and another in Spotland, held of John de Wolstenholme by a rent of 14d.¹⁴ Samuel Bamford, who died on 10 June 1629, held the manor of Bamford, with messuages in Bamford and Bury, of the Earl of Derby by a rent of 3s. 4d., and also the manor of Wolstenholme. The heir was his nephew William Bamford

⁹ Some deeds of the family may be seen in Raines MSS. (Chet. Lib.), xxxi, fol. 280, &c.

In 1445-6 John Holt of the Bridge, who also had Stake Hill in Thornham, agreed with John Clegg of the Mill-house concerning the marriage of his son Henry with Margery daughter of John Clegg. The deed mentions lands formerly held by Henry Holt and Margery his wife in Bury and Middleton; *ibid.* 181.

Roger Holt of Bury, son of Henry Holt of Bridge, occurs in 1490; *Pal. of Lanc. Writs Proton.* file 5 Hen. VII.

Roger Holt died 5 Sept. 1594, holding the capital messuage called Bridge Hall, a water-mill adjoining, and messuages, &c., in Heap, of the Earl of Derby in socage, by a rent of 2s. a year. He also had lands at Stake Hill in Middleton, Feilden in Hundersfield, and Whittaker in Clegg. His son Richard having died before him, the heir was Richard's son Roger, eleven years of age; *Duchy of Lanc. Inq. p.m.* xvi, no. 6. The will of Richard Holt is given in Raines, *op. cit.* 281; it appears that his mother's name was Anne, and he had brothers, Roger, Henry, Edward, and Francis. Roger Holt of Bridge Hall was buried 5 Feb. 1616-17; *Bury Reg.*

Peter Holt, the next to succeed, was, according to the pedigree, a son of Roger. He took sides with the Parliament and is described as captain, being no doubt the Captain Holt of Bury who helped to defend Bolton against Lord Derby; *Civil War Tracts* (Chet. Soc.), 81. In 1643 he married Elizabeth, widow of Henry Kelly of Manchester, his mother Mary and son and heir Roger being named. From the Bury Registers it appears that Elizabeth, 'an ancient professor,' was buried 21 Nov. 1646. At this time Peter was a member of the Bury Classis. He married again in 1649, Jane Gregory being his wife, and died 10 Aug. 1651; *Bury Reg.* She afterwards married Robert Gregge of Chester, and had a son Edward Gregge of Hapsford; Raines, *op. cit.* 282, 283, where Peter's will is given. A son, Peter Holt, M.A., 'a youth of the best hope,' died in 1644; *Bury Reg.*

Roger, the heir, married Jane Greenhalgh of Chamber in 1644-5; *ibid.* He recorded a pedigree in 1664-5, when forty-four years of age; *Dugdale, Visit.* (Chet. Soc.), 149. He died 29 May 1682; *Bury Reg.* Bridge Hall appears to have gone to his brother John, who in 1697 sold it to a cousin Nathaniel Gaskell of Manchester and Clifton; Raines, *op. cit.* 282-5. In 1736 Hugh Lord Sempill and Sarah his wife and the other heirs sold Bridge Hall to Robert Nuttall; *ibid.* 289.

A dispute concerning Bridge Hall and the corn mill in 1595 is recorded in *Ducatus Lanc.* (Rec. Com.), iii, 412. The defendant, Thomas Shaw, was guardian of Roger Holt, and appeared as plaintiff in 1601 respecting the mill; *ibid.* iii, 427. On the other hand the lessee of the Earl of Derby's mill at Bury complained that

various inhabitants of Heap and Whittle were withdrawing suit; *ibid.* iii, 373, 400.

¹⁰ Several deeds relating to Bridge Hall after it came into the possession of the Nuttalls are given in Raines MSS. xxxi, 290-313. Robert Nuttall had in 1718 sons Thomas and John; Thomas married Richmal daughter of Richard Kay of Newhouse in 1727. Thomas Nuttall appears in 1744, and a later Robert Nuttall's will was made in 1776, when his son and heir John was a minor. John came of age in 1790, and married Elizabeth Haworth. He mortgaged (or sold) Bridge Hall in 1807, and made his will in 1813. Robert Nuttall of Bridge Hall in 1819 married Susan Anne daughter of Randal Andrews, vicar of Ormskirk, and Richmal his wife. He was afterwards of Kempsey, Worcestershire, and on his death in 1857 left a daughter and heir Susan Eliza, who married Albert Hudson Roys of Falinge, near Rochdale.

¹¹ Bamford appears to have been divided, one half being merged in Heap, and the other forming part of the township of Birtle-with-Bamford in the parish of Middleton. There were, it is probable, two Bamford families, but it is difficult to separate them.

¹² Raines MSS. (Chet. Lib.), xi, fol. 114. The rent was payable on St. Oswald's Day. The seal shows a fesse enrailed.

In 1282 Richard son of Hugh de Gooden (Gulden) obtained a messuage, an oxgang of land, and the eighth part of a mill in Bamford, against Adam son of Hugh de Gooden and Eve his wife, the estate to be held of the heirs of Eve; *Final Conc.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), i, 157. In this case also the rent of 12d. was payable at the feast of St. Oswald.

¹³ The following notes may be of use. From early Ashworth deeds it appears that Robert de Ashworth was a son of Alexander de Bamford; among the witnesses to deeds are Henry de Bamford, William de Bamford, Thomas de Bamford, and Adam his brother (Raines MSS. [Chet. Lib.], xi, fol. 253); also Thomas de Bamford, Alexander, Henry, and Andrew his sons (*ibid.* 258). Henry de Bamford was a witness in 1287; *ibid.* 259.

In 1311 Richard son of Thomas de Bamford was concerned in a Spotland suit; *De Banco R.* 189, m. 9d. In 1332 Richard de Bamford contributed to the subsidy in Spotland; *Excb. Lay Subs.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), 33.

Thomas son of Adam de Bamford in 1321 slew Robert de Middleton and Alexander de Wardle at Rochdale; *Coram Rege R.* 254, m. 48.

Hugh son of Hugh de Atherton in 1330 claimed a messuage and lands against Ellis de Bamford; *De Banco R.* 283, m. 181 d.

In 1339 Hugh de Atherton claimed lands in Bamford against Adam son of Adam de Bamford, against Nicholas son of Ellis de Bamford, and against Henry

de Bamford; in each case 15 acres was in dispute; *De Banco R.* 320, m. 498 d.

Avice daughter of Thomas daughter of Richard de Bamford was nonsuited in 1353 in a claim for lands in Spotland; *De Banco R.* 435, m. 17, 28.

In 1371 Thomas son of Thomas de Bamford was concerned in a Spotland suit; *ibid.* R. 441, m. 57.

A little later Nicholas de Bamford and his son Nicholas occur; *ibid.* R. 452, m. 185d, &c.

Maud widow of Adam de Bamford complained in 1360 that she had been unlawfully detained in Tottington; *Assize R.* 451, m. 3.

¹⁴ *Lancs. Rec. Inq. p.m.* no. 3. The plaintiffs in the suit were Robert son of Geoffrey del Holt and James del Holt, executors of the will of John del Holt the elder. Henry de Scholefield had occupied the estate for two years preceding the inquisition in 1393.

Thus the outlawed Henry may be identified with a Henry de Bamford who with Ellen his wife claimed lands in Mawdesley and Croston in 1398 against Henry de Scholefield. The remainders were to Richard son of Henry and Ellen, and his heirs by Rose daughter of Thomas de Ainsworth; then to Thomas and John, brothers of Richard; to John son of Henry de Scholefield; to Henry son of John de Scholefield; to Thomas de Mawdesley, and to Thomas his son; lastly to the heirs of Ellen wife of Henry de Bamford. Margery then wife of Richard de Warburton had part of the lands as dower; *Final Conc.* iii, 54. Nicholas and Henry de Bamford attested a Holt charter in 1398; Raines MSS. (Chet. Lib.), xi, fol. 262. Hugh son of Nicholas de Bamford was a defendant in 1402; *Add. MS.* 32108, no. 1629.

Thomas Bamford and Adam his son were summoned for debt in 1524; *Pal. of Lanc. Writs Prot. Lent*, 15 Hen. VIII.

A pedigree was recorded in 1613 beginning with an Adam Bamford, probably the father of the Thomas last mentioned; *Dugdale, Visit.* (Chet. Soc.), 34.

William Bamford and Joan his wife made a settlement of the manor of Bamford and various messuages and lands in Bamford, Mawdesley, Wolstenholme, and Bury in 1584; *Pal. of Lanc. Feet of F. bdl.* 46, m. 123. William Bamford was a freeholder in 1600; *Misc.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), i, 247. One of the name was buried 10 Nov. 1607, and his widow Janet 1 Feb. 1616-17; *Bury Reg.* The will of William Bamford, dated 1604, is given in Raines MSS. (Chet. Lib.), vi, fol. 258; his wife Joan and son and heir William are named; he left 13s. 4d. to the repair of Bury Church. William son of William Bamford recorded a pedigree in 1613, as above quoted, his son William being then seventeen years of age. William Bamford of Bamford was buried 26 July 1624 (*Bury Reg.*), but Samuel Bamford contributed to the subsidy of 1622; *Misc.* (ut sup.), i, 161.

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son of William, then about thirty years of age.¹⁵ According to the pedigree recorded in 1664 this William died without issue, and the manor passed to a cousin of the same name, who left sons William and Samuel.¹⁶ The former, by his will in 1673, made his brother Samuel his principal heir.¹⁷ The estate descended to William Bamford, who died in 1761,¹⁸ leaving three daughters who died without issue, the eldest, Anne, devising it in 1779 to a distant kinsman, William Bamford of Tarleton Bridge, sheriff of Lancashire in 1787.¹⁹ He died in 1806, when Bamford and other estates became the property of Robert Hesketh in right of his wife, — Nicholson;²⁰ he changed his name to Bamford, but afterwards resumed his proper one. His son Robert married the heiress of Gwrych in Denbighshire. Bamford, however, was sold in 1816 to Joseph Fenton, whose son James in 1841 took down the hall built in the time of Queen Anne, and erected a new house. Bamford became



BAMFORD of Bamford. *Argent a fess engrailed gules.*

the property of a younger son, and on the failure of Fenton's Bank was sold by the trustees. The hall, park, and part of the land were purchased in 1888 by Mr. E. Stocks Massey, J.P.²¹

Moscrop House in Bamford was part of the Agecroft Estate.²² The Holts of Gristlehurst and of Ashworth also held lands here.²³

WHITTLE has no special history.²⁴ Ferdinando Stanley lived there in 1656.²⁵

LOMAX was given by Adam de Bury to Monk Bretton Priory.²⁶ It gave a surname to a widely-spread family,²⁷ and was often named as a hamlet.²⁸

The Smethurst family appear to have had lands in Heap.²⁹ Lands called Bymonds in Heap were the subject of dispute in 1575.³⁰

In 1788 the principal landowners in Heap were William Bamford, James Starky, Mrs. Nuttall, the executors of John Lancashire, the executors of Samuel Howorth, and John Partington.³¹

HEYWOOD gave a surname to a widely-spread family.³² Adam de Bury granted to Peter de Heywood certain lands at a rent of 2s.; should Adam's pigs enter the wood of Heywood in mast time, Peter was to be at liberty to drive them out.³³ The estate descended regularly to Robert Heywood, who died on

¹⁵ Duchy of Lanc. Inq. p.m. xxviii, no. 35; in it is recited a settlement made by Samuel Bamford a fortnight before his death, the remainders being to William son of Edward Bamford of Mawdesley, and to Edward son of Samuel Bamford of Bretherton.

William Bamford declined knighthood, paying in 1631 a composition of £10; *Misc.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), i, 216. 'Mr. Bamford of Bamford' died 10 Aug. 1649; Bury Reg.

¹⁶ Dugdale, *Visit.* (Chet. Soc.), 22. William Bamford died 28 Mar. 1673; Bury Reg.

¹⁷ Raines MSS. (Chet. Lib.), vi, fol. 299. The remainder of this account of Bamford is from Canon Raines's note in *Notitia Cestr.* ii, 29, except where other references are given.

¹⁸ A settlement was made in 1735, the deforciant in the fine being William Bamford and Margaret his wife, George Bamford and Margaret his wife, and Anne and Susan Bamford; Pal. of Lanc. Feet of F. bdle. 315, m. 69. The estate is not described as a manor, but as messuages and lands in Bamford, Spotland, and Wolstenholme.

¹⁹ P.R.O. List, 74. ²⁰ Burke, *Commoners*, iv, 524. For the Fentons see Burke, *Landed Gentry*, Fenton of Dutton Hall.

²¹ Information of Mr. Massey, who died in Dec. 1909.

²² In consequence of disputes about it between Richard Ashton of Middleton and Robert Langley of Agecroft an arbitration was arranged in 1524, and it was decided that the former ought to pay the latter a free rent of 6d.; Agecroft D. 101.

²³ For Gristlehurst see the account of Birtle in Middleton.

²⁴ Hawise de Whittle (Quitul), Adam of the same, and his brothers John and Roger, in 1292 sought to prove their freedom against Adam de Bury; Assize R. 408, m. 33 d.

A family named Langley resided in the 17th century at Whittle; William Langley was summoned by the heralds in 1664; Dugdale, *Visit.* p. v.

²⁵ Manchester Free Library D. no. 100; the field names given include Warriner

Wood, Reyne Cloughs, and Pingle. The Bury registers contain some entries referring to the family.

²⁶ Monk Bretton Chartul. fol. 43, 44; and Lansdowne MS. 405, fol. 49. The 'land' called 'Lummehalenges' within the bounds of Heap touched Gooden (Guledene) and the water of Roch (Rached). A claim made in 1445 by the Prior of Monk Bretton against Sir John de Pilkington may refer to this land; Pal. of Lanc. Plea R. 7, m. 36.

²⁷ See the account of Pilsworth. The Bury registers mention Lomax of Castle Hill, Lomax of Redivales, Lomax of Croichley, Lomax of Bent, &c.

²⁸ Robert de Radcliffe held a tenement called 'Lomhaille' of Henry de Bury in 1351; Duchy of Lanc. Assize R. 1, m. 2 d. Richard son of John de Radcliffe seems to have held the same estate in 1368; De Banco R. 431, m. 351; and Sir Alexander Radcliffe in 1546; Pal. of Lanc. Feet of F. bdle. 12, m. 253.

²⁹ Richard Smethurst died 5 June 1597 holding lands in Bury of the Earl of Derby in socage, by a rent of 6½d., also a messuage in Middleton of the queen as of her manor of Stanton Lacy in Shropshire. Richard his son and heir was twenty-six years of age; Duchy of Lanc. Inq. p.m. xvii, no. 74. Richard Smethurst contributed to the subsidy of 1622; *Misc.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), i, 161. These seem to have been the Smethursts of Broad Oak, whose estate was afterwards acquired by the Nuttalls; Raines MSS. (Chet. Lib.), xxxi, fol. 272, 273.

Arthur Smethurst the elder made a settlement of three messuages and lands in Bury, &c., in 1568; Pal. of Lanc. Feet of F. bdle. 30, m. 117. Arthur Smethurst of Heap married Margaret Kay on 24 Feb. 1611-12; Bury Reg. The same or another Arthur was a member of the Bury Classis in 1646.

³⁰ *Ducatus Lanc.* (Rec. Com.), iii, 34.

³¹ Land tax returns at Preston.

³² There are pedigrees in the *Iter Lanc.* (Chet. Soc.), 22; and in *Lancs. and Ches. Antiq. Soc.* ix, 144.

³³ *Iter Lanc.* 23; O. Heywood, *Diaries*, i, 124. The bounds began at Gooden

(Golden) in Hopwood, descended to the Roch, ascended this to Heyden (Heedene), and this to the boundary of the lands of Adam de Bury and Roger de Middleton. The date is about 1270.

In 1246 Peter son of Robert de Heywood had recovered 2 acres of land in Heywood against Gervase de Halliwell, Hawise his wife, Hugh the son of Gervase, and Wimark his wife; Assize R. 404, m. 3. In 1292 William son of Hugh de Gooden complained that he had been dispossessed of his common of pasture in 2 acres of moor within Bury, Peter de Heywood and his sons Henry, Richard, Robert, and Gilbert being the principal offenders; but he was unsuited; Assize R. 408, m. 5.

William de Heywood in 1344 granted all his land in Bury to his brother Richard for life, at a rent of 26s. a year; Dods. MSS. cxvii, fol. 163. Richard de Heywood appears in 1357; *Dep. Keeper's Rep.* xxxii, App. 336. Nicholas de Heywood in 1366 enfeoffed John de Radcliffe of Chaderton of all his lands in Bury and Middleton; Dods. MSS. loc. cit. In 1375 Nicholas complained of a trespass at Heywood; De Banco R. 460, m. 261.

A Hugh de Heywood went to Portugal on the king's service in 1385; *Dep. Keeper's Rep.* xi, App. 524.

Robert son of Nicholas de Heywood made a feoffment of his lands in Heywood in 1417; Dods. MSS. cxvii, fol. 163b. Two years later the feoffees granted Robert's lands in the hamlet of Heap in the vill of Bury and in Middleton to his brother Geoffrey; *ibid.* Geoffrey de Heywood in 1429-30 agreed not to alienate the lands of his father Nicholas, in view of the marriage of his son Peter with Margaret daughter of Robert Tunnicliffe; *ibid.*

Geoffrey de Heywood survived his son, and in 1455-6 a settlement of his lands was made, by which they were to descend successively to Robert, Nicholas, Geoffrey, and James, the sons of Peter, and heirs male; in default to Nicholas, another son of Geoffrey the elder; *ibid.* fol. 165. Geoffrey had another son James, to whom a moiety of Hurlcroft in Bury was granted for life at the same time, with remainder

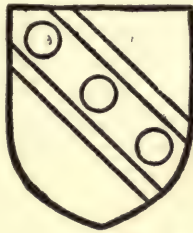
19 March 1543-4, holding Heywood of the Earl of Derby in socage by the ancient rent of 2s., payable at St. Oswald's feast-day. James his brother and heir was forty years of age.³⁴ The next notable possessor of the estate is Peter Heywood, who in the Civil War was at first a captain for the Parliament, but went over to the king's side,³⁵ his lands being sequestered.³⁶ His son Robert recorded a short pedigree in 1664,³⁷ and was succeeded by his son Peter, and grandson Robert, a clergyman. The last-named Robert in 1717 sold Heywood to John Starky of Rochdale,³⁸ whose grandson James Starky died in 1846 without issue.³⁹

Richard Milnes was a freeholder in Heywood in 1600.⁴⁰

A declaration by adherents to the Commonwealth in 1650-1 is extant.⁴¹

Towards the end of the 18th century Heywood began to grow into a town. Several cotton mills were

established about 1780,⁴² and the manufacture has continued to advance, while other trades have been added.⁴³ A branch of the Rochdale and Manchester Canal was brought to the town in 1830. The station at Bluepits on the Lancashire and Yorkshire Company's line from Manchester to Rochdale was opened in 1839 for the convenience of Heywood people, who were conveyed to and from the town by a packet-boat on the canal. The railway was extended to Heywood itself in 1841. A gas-lighting Act was obtained in 1826, but the town was not lighted till 1851. A local board was established in 1864,⁴⁴ and in 1867 the district was extended and renamed Heywood.⁴⁵ In 1881 the borough was incorporated;⁴⁶ the area now includes parts of Heap, Hopwood, Pilsworth, Birtle-with-Bamford, and Castleton,⁴⁷ and in 1894 this area was made a civil parish, the old township limits being abolished.⁴⁸ The town is governed by a mayor and council of six aldermen and eighteen



HEYWOOD of Heywood. *Argent three torteaux between two bendlets gules.*



BOROUGH OF HEYWOOD. *Or five torteaux between two bendlets engrailed and as many masles sable.*

to Robert son and heir of Peter de Heywood; *ibid.*

In 1501 an agreement was made between James Holt of Gristlehurst, Ralph his son and heir, and their partners, on one side, and Robert Heywood of Heywood, Peter his son and heir, and their partners, on the other: *ibid.*

³⁴ Duchy of Lanc. Inq. p.m. vii, no. 29. This recites the settlement of 1455-6, and traces the descent to Robert Heywood, who was the son and heir of the Peter last mentioned. Peter Heywood had given Leonard's Croft and other lands to trustees for the use of Elizabeth daughter of Charles Radcliffe, on her marriage with Robert his son. A settlement was made in 1539 (see Pal. of Lanc. Feet of F. bde. 12, m. 7), whereby the lands in Heywood, Heap, Bury, and Middleton, were, after the death of Peter, to go to his son Robert, and in default of male issue, to a younger son James. The lands in Middleton were held of Robert Langley in socage, by a rent of 6d.

James Heywood in 1559 made a settlement of his estates in Heywood and elsewhere, the remainders being to his sons Peter, heir apparent, and Robert; Pal. of Lanc. Feet of F. bde. 21, m. 65. Peter Heywood succeeded before 1569, when he made a settlement; *ibid.* bde. 31, m. 17. Peter Heywood was returned as a freeholder in 1600; *Misc.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), i, 247. He was buried 14 Feb. 1599-1600; Bury Reg. According to the pedigrees the Peter Heywood who assisted at the arrest of Guy Fawkes in 1605 was a younger son. The heir was the elder son Robert, who rebuilt Heywood Hall in 1611, and is described by Oliver Heywood as 'a pious, reverend old gentleman and an excellent poet'; *Iter Lanc.* 17; O. Heywood's *Diaries*, i, 17. His *Observations* has been printed by the Chetham Society (vol. 76).

The pedigree of 1664-5 begins with Robert Heywood, who paid £100 on refusing knighthood in 1631; *Misc.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), i, 216. He was buried 19 Jan. 1646-7; Bury Reg. By his will, dated 8 Oct. 1646, he devised his estate to the use of his son Peter, reserving

dower for Margaret his wife and portions for his daughters and a younger son John; then to his grandson Robert and heirs male; in default to his said son John, &c.; 'provided that the trustees should stand seised of two houses in Rochdale to the use of his son John, upon his submission to Parliament, until he came to some ecclesiastical preferment in the Church of England of £50 a year.' This son was made rector of Walton at the Restoration. There was a further provision that if his son Peter should submit to the Parliament the trustees were 'to stand seised of the premises unto the said Peter Heywood, his heirs and assigns, for ever'; *Roy. Comp. Papers* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), iii, 222, 223. It thus appears that while the father was a Parliamentarian and a member of the Bury Classis, his sons were Royalists. John was living 'at Oxford as a scholar' in 1652.

³⁵ *Civil War Tracts*, 230. He not only 'held intelligence with the enemy' while a Parliamentary officer, but after he had joined the king's army 'he offered,' says Colonel Rosworm, 'in the behalf of Prince Rupert, that I should have a very great sum of money paid me in my hand before my delivery of the town, that I should have great preferment under Prince Rupert,' &c.

³⁶ *Roy. Comp. Papers*, ut sup. His fine was £351. He also desired to compound for the dower of his wife in lands in Rochdale and Stidd, the inheritance of her former husband, Theophilus Holt. Peter Heywood died 4 Jan. 1657-8; Bury Reg.

³⁷ Dugdale, *Visit.* (Chet. Soc.), 139. Robert was then Clerk of the Green Wax for the county palatine; his son Peter was two years of age. Robert Heywood and Mary his wife, one of the sisters and co-heirs of John Haslam of Rochdale, who was son and heir of Ellis Haslam, sold land in 1671; Raines MSS. (Chet. Lib.), xxxi, fol. 67. Robert Heywood and Peter his son were burgesses at the Preston Guild of 1682; *Guild Rolls* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), 189.

³⁸ Robert Heywood, son and heir of Peter, son and heir of Robert, sold the

Heywood estates together with the manor of Spotland in Rochdale for £1,841 8s. 6d. The capital messuage of Heywood Hall, with water corn-mill, lands in Heap, Middleton, and Bamford, and the site and advowson of the chapel of Heywood, are mentioned, and many field names (including Coal pit field) are given; Raines MSS. (Chet. Lib.), xvi, fol. 111. See also Pal. of Lanc. Feet of F. bde. 279, m. 86. From another deed given by Canon Raines it appears that the vendor died before 1742.

³⁹ Extracts from the diary of John Starky of Heywood are given in Raines MSS. viii, fol. 343.

In 1749 an agreement was made for the marriage of John son and heir apparent of John Starky with Esther Whalley of Blackburn. James Starky in 1786 married Elizabeth daughter of Edward Gregge Hopwood. See Raines MSS. xvi, fol. 111; and *Notitia Cestr.* ii, 29. James Starky also owned Tonge Hall near Middleton; he was sheriff in 1791-2; P.R.O. *List*, 74.

In a statement of the Starky title to the advowson of Heywood in 1834, it is stated that John Starky purchased from Heywood, was succeeded by his only surviving son John, and he by his son James, seventy-two years old in 1834; Church P. at Chester.

⁴⁰ *Misc.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), i, 249. ⁴¹ Add. Chart. 7180 (B.M.).

⁴² In a lecture by Mr. J. A. Green in 1899, it is stated that James Kershaw of Wrigley Brook Mill purchased cotton in 1777; three other mills were also in existence, and Makin Mill was built by Peel, Yates & Co., about 1780.

⁴³ An account of the progress of the cotton manufacture is given in Barton, *Bury*, 276-7, from which volume are extracted several other particulars in the text.

⁴⁴ *Lond. Gaz.* 8 Mar. 1864, for Heap Middle Division.

⁴⁵ 30 & 31 Vict. cap. 64; 38 & 39 Vict. cap. 76; and 42 & 43 Vict. cap. 76.

⁴⁶ The date of the charter is 18 Feb. 1881.

⁴⁷ The portion of Castleton was added in 1900; Loc. Govt. Bd. Order P, 1640.

⁴⁸ *Ibid.* Order 31671.

A HISTORY OF LANCASHIRE

councillors, elected by three wards—North, South, and West.⁴⁹ The gasworks are now owned by the Corporation, and the water supply, formerly owned by it, is now the property of the Heywood and Middleton Joint Water Board, formed in 1898. The corporation also own the free library, opened in 1873; the Queen's Park, 1879, the land a gift from Queen Victoria;⁵⁰ an infectious diseases hospital in Birtle; and a cemetery in Castleton. There is a bench of magistrates for the borough. There are a weekly market⁵¹ on Friday, and fairs in April, August, and October.⁵² A Mechanics' Institute, formed in 1840, existed more than thirty years. There are two newspapers—the *Advertiser* and the *News*—issued on Friday.⁵³

A chapel existed at Heywood before **CHURCH** the Reformation, but it appears to have had no 'ornaments' except a bell in 1552.⁵⁴ It is said to have been rebuilt by Robert Heywood about 1640,⁵⁵ and his descendant, a century later, in selling the estates proposed to sell also the site and advowson of the chapel. It appears, however, that the rector of Bury has always presented the curate. The chapel has probably been used regularly for public worship from the beginning of the 17th century, when it was 'maintained by the inhabitants.'⁵⁶ The Commonwealth Commissioners in 1650 found that there was no endowment beyond 'the use of £5,' left by William Holme.⁵⁷ Later contributions raised the endowment to £8 10s. by 1718.⁵⁸ The registers begin in 1778. The church was rebuilt in 1860,⁵⁹ and a separate district was assigned to it in

1864.⁶⁰ The following have been curates and vicars:—⁶¹

- 1692 Thomas Taylor⁶²
- c. 1715 Thomas Ryder⁶³
- 1717 C. Barret⁶⁴
- 1719 Nathan Stock,⁶⁵ M.A. (Brasenose Coll. Oxf.)
- 1729 James Bankes
- 1742 James Barton, B.A. (St. John's Coll. Camb.)
- 1745 William Barton⁶⁶
- 1774 Richard Longford⁶⁷
- 1803 Richard Hood, LL.D.⁶⁸
- Thomas Hill⁶⁹
- 1823 Joseph Bland Jameson, B.D.⁷⁰
- 1835 Robert Minnitt, M.A.⁷¹ (Trin. Coll., Dublin)
- 1850 Julius Shadwell, B.A.⁷² (Balliol Coll., Oxf.)
- 1865 Thomas Ramsbotham, M.A.⁷³ (Christ's Coll., Camb.)
- 1872 Thomas Julius Henderson, M.A.⁷⁴ (Wadham Coll., Oxf.)
- 1878 John Spittall, M.A.⁷⁵ (Trinity Hall, Camb.)
- 1885 Richard William Perry Circuit⁷⁶
- 1900 Edward Basil Armstrong Hughes, M.A.⁷⁷ (Worc. Coll., Oxf.)
- 1909 John Plumpton Wilson, M.A.^{78a} (Queen's Coll., Oxf.)

St. James's, built in 1836–8, and restored in 1875 and 1884, was the second church within the town—

⁴⁹ A full description of the boundaries is given in the *Year Bk.* of the borough, lent to the editors by the town clerk, Mr. George G. Bouchier.

⁵⁰ It was the old park of Heywood Hall, and was purchased out of moneys which devolved to Her Majesty in right of the duchy from the estate of Charles Martin Newhouse, deceased; *Year Bk.*

⁵¹ There were formerly two covered markets, but both have long since been converted to other uses; Information of Rev. B. Hughes, vicar.

⁵² The *Year Bk.* quoted gives particulars of other municipal undertakings, as the baths, technical school and classes, electric lighting station, sewage disposal works, &c.

⁵³ The first newspaper was the *Observer*, in 1844; *Heywood N. and Q.* i, 17.

⁵⁴ *Cb. Goods* (Chet. Soc.), 46. The chapel was purchased by the inhabitants; Raines, *Chant.* (Chet. Soc.), ii, 277. It is marked in Saxton's map, 1577; and Agnes Radcliffe of Marland left 2s. to Heywood Chapel; Raines in *Notitia Cestr.* ii, 34.

⁵⁵ Gastrell, *ibid.*; it was 'never consecrated; the designed endowment of the founder was lost, and the estate sold.'

⁵⁶ *Hist. MSS. Com. Rep.* xiv, App. iv, 12. Mr. Buckley was 'lecturer' at Heywood in 1622, and Giles Clayton 'curate,' 1634–6; *Misc.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), i, 66, 95. Robert Towne, curate in 1640, averred that he did not hold the opinions of the Grindletonians, as had been alleged; Raines MSS. (Chet. Lib.), xxii, fol. 306.

Jonathan Scholefield was curate from 1647 or earlier until 1659, when he moved to Douglas chapel. He signed the 'Harmonious Consent' in 1648. In

1647 he had some dispute with his congregation, but it seems to have been adjusted; Shaw's *Bury Classis* (Chet. Soc.), i, 22, 40, 123; ii, 253. In 1650 he was reported to be 'orthodox for divinity, well qualified for life and conversation'; *Commonwealth Ch. Surv.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), 42. George Thomason is said to have been ejected from Heywood in 1662; Calamy, *Nonconf. Mem.* (ed. Palmer), ii, 94.

⁵⁷ *Commonwealth Ch. Surv.* 42.

⁵⁸ Gastrell, *Notitia Cestr.* ii, 33–5. Richard Whitehead of Pilsworth in 1671 gave money for the use of the minister at Heywood; and Richard Haworth of Heap in 1704 made a bequest 'for the sole use and benefit of such curate, minister, or preacher, as shall from time to time be appointed to officiate and serve at the chapel of Heywood, and as shall be conformable to the liturgy and service of the Church of England as by law now established, and not otherwise. And if any curate or minister shall be imposed on the said chapel or shall officiate there who shall not be conformable as aforesaid, then my said trustees shall dispose of all the said rents and profits as they shall think fit'; *ibid.*

⁵⁹ There was a dial on the east side of the chapel, bearing the date 1686, and the initials of Robert Heywood; also A.B. 1807. The column of the dial was recently found; Information of the Rev. B. Hughes. A sundial was placed in the churchyard in 1845.

⁶⁰ *Lond. Gas.* 8 Jan. 1864. The tithes of the township of Heap were in 1857 annexed to the chapelry, and the incumbents have usually been styled rectors, but it appears, by a ruling of the Ecclesiastical Commissioners, that this is incorrect.

⁶¹ The list is taken from the Church P. at Chester, and Raines MSS. ix, fol. 8, 9. Few curates occur in the fifty years following the Restoration; but Ichabod Furness was there in 1671; John Battersby in 1677–9; Abraham Butterworth, B.A., in 1684; Church P. at Chester, and Mr. Earwaker's notes.

⁶² The regular Church P. begin with him.

⁶³ Objection was made to him in 1717.

⁶⁴ Also at Holcombe.

⁶⁵ William Bamford and John Starky gave £100 to the endowment in 1719 on condition that Nathan Stock be appointed; Gastrell, *Notitia*, ii, 35.

⁶⁶ An excellent ornithologist; Raines.

⁶⁷ A grave and devout clergyman of the old school; Raines.

⁶⁸ Afterwards Dean of Kilmacduagh; Raines.

⁶⁹ Immoral, resigned; Raines.

⁷⁰ He was long suspended by the bishop, and died in an obscure beer-house where he had taken shelter from the weather. He was very poor, and left a widow and family; Raines.

⁷¹ Afterwards vicar of Healey, Rochdale; he died in 1884.

⁷² Afterwards rector of Washington, Durham.

⁷³ Resigned in 1872.

⁷⁴ Vicar of South Banbury, 1878; vicar of Farley, 1883.

⁷⁵ Exchanged the vicarage of South Banbury with his predecessor; became vicar of Havenstreet, Ryde, I.W., in 1885.

⁷⁶ Previously vicar of Cholsey, Berks.

⁷⁷ To Mr. Hughes are due several of the particulars in this account of Heywood.

^{78a} Previously vicar of St. Paul, Peel.

ship of Heap devoted to the Established religion. The Bishop of Manchester is the patron.⁷⁸ It had a mission church, St. George's, at Heap Bridge, which in 1907 had a separate parish assigned to it; the rector of Bury is patron. St. Anne's mission church was built in 1908. St. Michael's, Bamford, was built in 1885; the Bishop of Manchester is the patron.

The Wesleyan Methodists have a church in Market Street, built in 1805 and enlarged in 1828, and a mission-room. The United Methodist Church have two chapels, one of them built in 1836, and the Primitive Methodists one, opened in 1835. The New Connexion also had one in 1844.

The Baptists have a chapel in Rochdale Road, dating from 1831.

The Congregationalists began to hold services in Heywood as early as 1821, but a chapel was not built until 1836. The cause prospered, and the present church was erected in 1868-9.⁷⁹ The church at Bamford originated earlier; preaching began in 1800, and a small chapel was opened in the following year.⁸⁰

The Swedenborgians had established themselves here early in the 19th century; New Jerusalem, in Church Street, was built in 1828, and enlarged ten years later.

The Unitarians have a chapel, built in 1860, and there is a Spiritualists' temple.

The Roman Catholic Church of St. Joseph was opened in 1856.⁸¹

A school at Heywood existed in 1696.⁸²

WALMERSLEY-WITH-SHUTTLEWORTH

Walmersley, 1289. The name was frequently corrupted: Womersley and Wamessley (xvi cent.); Walmsley (xix cent.).

Suttlesworth, 1227; Shyotlesworth, 1241; Shytlesworth, Shitlesworth, 1246; Schutelesworth, 1292.

Of the component parts of this township Walmersley lies to the south of Harden Brook, and Shuttleworth to the north of it. Out of a total of 5,064½ acres,¹ the former has an area of 2,949½ acres, the latter of 2,115. The surface is hilly, spurs shooting out from the eastern side towards the valley of the Irwell, which bounds the township, and is fed by tributary streams running down the valleys between the spurs. Deeply Vale is on the eastern border.

⁷⁸ For endowments see *Lond. Gaz.* 8 Aug. 1865, and 10 Sept. 1844.

⁷⁹ Full details, with names of the ministers, are given in Nightingale, *Lancs. Non-conformity*, iii, 263-8. Mrs. Fenton of Bamford Hall guaranteed the expense of a preaching-room in 1821.

⁸⁰ *Ibid.* iii, 255-62; the Fentons of Bamford Hall, whose mills at Hooley Bridge brought a great increase of population, were members of the congregation and liberal benefactors. Sir James Kay-Shuttleworth, bart., a native of Bamford, was also connected with it.

⁸¹ The mission was begun in 1854; Kelly, *Engl. Cath. Missions*, 213.

⁸² Gastrell, *Notitia*, ii, 35.

¹ The present township has only 3,139 acres, including 41 of inland water; *Census Rep.* 1901.

² J. Butterworth, *Bury* (ed. 1902), 22.

³ Baines, *Lancs.* (ed. 1836), ii, 677.

⁴ Barton, *Bury*, 46-8.

⁵ Watkins, *Rom. Lancs.* 243; Taylor, *Lancs. Crosses*, 467.

⁶ Subs. R. bdle. 250, no. 9, Lancs.

⁸³ He had much opposition, and was so embarrassed by the lawsuits he had to engage in against those who infringed his patents, that at last he took refuge in France. It is related that on one occasion, when his house was gutted by the mob, he escaped by being carried out of Bury in a wool sheet. His son Robert invented the drop-box in 1759. See a statement of the case by Thomas Sutcliffe, a descendant of John Kay, in his *Exposition of Facts*, 1843, and *Crusonia*; also *Dict. Nat. Biog.* A monument to John Kay was erected in Bury in 1908.

⁷ Under the Divided Parishes Act, 1882, the detached part called Cobhouse Farm was transferred from Walmersley to Birtle, within which it lay. In 1894 the township was extended to include part of Birtle-with-Bamford, by Local Govt. Bd. Order 31671.

⁸ In 1289 Matthew de Walmersley claimed against Roger son of Robert de

The north-eastern part of Shuttleworth is occupied by Scout Moor, which at one point rises to 1,534 ft. The brook forming the northern boundary is called Scout Moor Brook and Dearden Brook. The population in 1901 was 711.

The principal road is that running north from Bury to Haslingden, about half a mile to the east of the Irwell, crossing Pigslee Brook, the boundary, and passing through Walmersley village, Bassfield, Gollinrod, Park, Shipperbottom, Bank Lane, and Shuttleworth. Roads branch off to the west to Summerseat and Ramsbottom. Shuttleworth is also crossed by the main road from Rochdale to Haslingden, which passes the hamlet called Turn and joins the former road at Edenfield. The Lancashire and Yorkshire Company's line from Bury to Accrington passes in part through this township, and has a station called Summerseat.

Shuttleworth was in 1829 described as 'a small village on the border of the dreary waste called Rooley Moor.'²

The Grant Tower in Walmersley was built by that family in 1829, and stands on the hill over against Nuttall and Park.

On Whittle Pike in Shuttleworth were formerly the remains of a beacon.³

A pot containing Roman coins of the 3rd century was discovered at Throstlehill, Walmersley, in 1864.⁴ 'Castlesteads' is supposed to have been an entrenchment; it is on a bluff overlooking the Irwell.⁵

The hearth-tax return of 1666 shows twenty hearths liable in Shuttleworth, and sixty-seven in Walmersley; no house had more than four hearths.⁶

John Kay, the inventor of the fly-shuttle, was born at Park in Walmersley 16 July 1704, and died in France, as is supposed, after 1760.^{6a}

The cotton manufacture, with its mills and bleach and dye works, is the chief industry along the Irwell; inland the chief product is grass; the soil is heavy, with subsoil of rock.

The present township of Walmersley-with-Shuttleworth is much smaller than the former hamlet or township, portions having been taken into Ramsbottom and Bury, and some minor alterations effected.⁷ It has a parish council.

Under the lords of Bury *WALMERS-MANOR LEY* seems for some time to have been held by a family assuming the local surname.⁸ In later times, however, a number of

Walmersley the moiety of an oxgang in Walmersley in Bury; De Banco R. 80, m. 201.

Robert de Walmersley was a juror in 1300; *Inq. and Extents* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), i, 305. Roger de Walmersley contributed to the subsidy of 1332, as an inhabitant of Bury; *Exch. Lay Subs.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), 33. In 1365 there was a dispute as to the guardianship of the heir of Henry de Walmersley between Sir Roger de Pilkington and John de Radcliffe, lord and rector respectively of Bury; De Banco R. 419, m. 33 d.

In 1587 Roger Walmersley unsuccessfully claimed four messuages, a fulling-mill, 60 acres of land, &c., in Bury, as descendant of Roger son of Roger de Walmersley, who was seised, as he alleged, in the time of Richard II. He proffered the following pedigree: Roger—s. Simon s.p.—bro. Henry—s. Roger—s. Roger—s. John—s. Roger—s. Roger, the plaintiff; Pal. of Lanc. Plea R. 260, m. 6.

A HISTORY OF LANCASHIRE

families appear holding small estates in this part of the township, for example, the Kays of Cobhouse,⁹ Rothwells,¹⁰ and Woods.¹¹ Shipwalbottom, now Shipperbottom, also occurs as an estate and a surname.¹² Gollinrod was the estate of a Nuttall family.¹³

The estate of Oliver Nabb in Walmersley was sequestered by the Parliament.¹⁴

SHUTTLEWORTH appears to have been a part of Tottington, acquired by an ancestor of Adam de Bury, who in 1227 established his right to a moiety of it.¹⁵ Henry de Bury in 1311 held half the manor of Shuttleworth of the lord of Tottington by a rent of 12d. a year.¹⁶ The Shuttleworth family is occasionally mentioned.¹⁷ There is little further to record

⁹ Some charters preserved by Kuerden (iii, B, 17) seem to refer to this estate; by one of them Adam de Bury granted to Henry son of Gilbert de Redvales an acre within 'Gobbetris,' by 'Pedeksedene' Brook, with all easements in Walmersley and 'Kobholris.'

William son of Roger Kay of 'Cobholles' was in 1346 charged with having cut down John del Holt's trees in Bury; De Banco R. 346, m. 113; R. 347, m. 231. In 1360 John del Holt the elder was plaintiff respecting an assart at 'Pigkisdene' in Bury, now Pigsden in Walmersley; Assize R. 450, m. 1. Ralph Holt in 1441 claimed two messuages, 60 acres, &c., in Bury and Middleton against Thomas son of William Kay and others; Pal. of Lanc. Plea R. 3, m. 14.

A settlement of the estate of Thomas Kay in Walmersley was made in 1586 by himself, his wife Anne, Richard Kay, Charles Holt, and Mary his wife; it contained three messuages, a water-mill, 18 acres, &c.; Pal. of Lanc. Feet of F. bde. 48, m. 216. The estate of Robert Kay, consisting of ten messuages, a mill, 60 acres of land, &c., seems to have been purchased by Edward Rawstorne in 1582; *ibid.* bde. 44, m. 160.

Some deeds of the Kays of Cobbas or Cobhouse, as it is now spelt, are copied in Raines MSS. (Chet. Lib.), xxxi, 411, &c., with a pedigree reaching down to 1858. Captain William Kay of Cobhouse took part in the defence of Lathom at both sieges (*Civil War Tracts* [Chet. Soc.], 169, 212); his sword and dagger are in possession of descendants at present. Stones in the house bore the inscriptions:

K E
W · D and R · K.
1631 1662

In the same volume of Raines MSS. will be found extracts from the journals of Richard Kay of Baldingstone, near Cobhouse, of the early 18th century; pp. 430-449.

¹⁰ Thomas Rothwell in 1578 purchased a messuage, &c., in Walmersley from Ralph Nuttall; Pal. of Lanc. Feet of F. bde. 40, m. 71. Giles Rothwell, who died 17 March 1630-1, held a messuage and lands in Walmersley of the Earl of Derby, as of his manor of Bury; Thomas, the son and heir, was twenty-two years of age; Towneley MS. C, 8, 13 (Chet. Lib.), fol. 1073.

¹¹ Thomas Wood and Joan his wife in 1552 acquired a messuage, &c., from Richard Lache, clerk; Pal. of Lanc. Feet of F. bde. 14, m. 66. Henry Wood died 28 Feb. 1625-6, holding a messuage in Bank Lane in Walmersley of the Earl of Derby; Thomas, the son and heir, was only five years of age, but by his will the estate was left to a son Henry for life, after the death of the testator's brother, John Wood, he paying 20s. to the heirs; Towneley MS. C, 8, 13 (Chet. Lib.), fol. 1293.

¹² Joan daughter of Roger Eleteson of Shipwalbottom in 1351 claimed against Thomas Johnson of the same a messuage, 20 acres of land, and 10 acres in Bury—

otherwise in the place called Shipwalbottom in the hamlet of Walmersley in the town of Bury; she being daughter and heir of Roger son of Richard, brother of Adam de Shipwalbottom (possessor in the time of Edw. II), whose son Richard had died without issue. The defendant held by a grant from one Henry de Stock, who received from Richard, the plaintiff's grandfather; Duchy of Lanc. Assize R. 1, m. 3d.

Twelve years later Joan prosecuted the same claim against Margaret widow of William de Kirkhagh; De Banco R. 415, m. 205 d.

The estate appears soon afterwards to have descended to the Wolstenholme family; see Fishwick, *Rochdale*, 526. Early in 1507 it was sold by James son and heir of John Wolstenholme, Joan his wife, and Nicholas Wolstenholme, to Thomas Hesketh (of Rufford); Pal. of Lanc. Plea R. 103, m. 3. It occurs, as a messuage and lands in Walmersley, in the Hesketh inquisitions, without notice of the tenure; Duchy of Lanc. Inq. p.m. v, no. 16; vii, no. 14; and was in 1555 sold by Sir Thomas Hesketh and Alice his wife to Elizabeth Nuttall, widow; Pal. of Lanc. Feet of F. bde. 16, m. 131.

Thomas Jones and Thurstan Rawstorne in 1577 had a suit with Ralph Nuttall respecting Shipwalbottom in Walmersley; *Ducatus Lanc.* (Rec. Com.), iii, 56.

From the Bury registers it appears that a family named Kay lived at Shipwalbottom in the first half of the 17th century.

¹³ Alexander de Bury, in the latter part of the reign of Henry III, granted to Nicholas de Golynde all his land in the hamlet of Walmersley, the bounds on three sides being a brook, the great water of Irwell, and Cowtelaw syke, at a rent of 18d. at the feast of St. Oswald; Ormerod, *Parentalia*, 43.

John son of Nicholas Gollin of Gollinrod in 1491 sold the estate to Henry son of Richard Nuttall of Nuttall in Tottington; *ibid.* 41. In the work referred to the descent of the estate is traced as follows: Henry Nuttall—s. George—s. Henry, *1.p.*—bro. Christopher—s. George, d. 1617—s. George, d. 1637—s. Richard, d. 1675-6—dau. and heir Susanna wife of Joshua Crompton of the Old Hall in Pilkington. As late as 1559 Ralph, the heir of John Gollin, claimed a messuage, &c., in Bury against George Nuttall and Roger Holt; *Ducatus Lanc.* (Rec. Com.), ii, 212.

George Nuttall, murdered in March 1636-7 by Thomas Rothwell, held his tenement of the Earl of Derby as lord of Bury by a rent of 18d.; Richard, his son and heir, was twenty-five years of age; Duchy of Lanc. Inq. p.m. xxx, no. 94, and Bury Reg.

Susanna Crompton died in 1716, and her daughter Hester, wife of Samuel Wareing, succeeded to Gollinrod; then came the Nangreaves of Netherton in Chester, issue of Anne, eldest daughter and co-heir of Hester. 'After their extinction by the death of Col. S. W. Nangreave

in 1815,' Gollinrod and Sedger hey 'passed to the illegitimate issue of his eldest brother, and were sold in parcels, except a small part, which passed under the will of Col. Nangreave to his natural daughter, whose descendants still (1851) possess it. The remains of the mansion have been destroyed'; Ormerod, *op. cit.* 44, referring to the Gollinrod charters, then 'in possession of the trustees of the late Mrs. Edward Mangin of Bath, natural daughter of Col. Nangreave.'

¹⁴ *Royalist Comp. Papers* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), ii, 203-6. Abraham Nabb of Walmersley had made a settlement of his lands in 1638, just before his death, and they were held by his trustees for the benefit of his son Oliver and other uses, but seized by the Parliamentary authorities about 1643 and again in 1645, on the ground that Oliver had joined the Royal forces. This was denied; and it was said that he had fought for the Parliament 'at the last invasion into Scotland' (1652). He was a butcher. George Battersby, a tenant, was also concerned in the sequestration; *ibid.* i, 153.

¹⁵ A deafforestation grant was made in 1225 to John de Mara for Adam de Bury; *Cal. Pat.* 1216-25, p. 576.

In 1227 Adam de Bury claimed 200 acres of land and a mill, with the appurtenances, in Shuttleworth, against John de la Mare, in right of descent; and John acknowledged the moiety of the land, &c., claimed to be Adam's right, to wit, a moiety of the whole demesne, wheresoever it lay *versus umbram*, at the rent of 12d. Those who had been enfeoffed by John must perform a moiety of the due service to Adam and a moiety to John; *Final Conc.* i, 49.

In 1246 Adam de Bury and Roger de Shuttleworth were convicted of having disseised Robert de Byron of his common of pasture in Shuttleworth, by approving 30 acres of pasture; Assize R. 404, m. 2.

¹⁶ *De Lacy Inq.* (Chet. Soc.), 19.

Shuttleworth and Shipperbottom were particularly named in the grant of the Pilkington manors to the Earl of Derby in 1489.

¹⁷ Geoffrey de Denton [? Foxdenton] in 1241 acknowledged Roger de Shuttleworth to be a freeman, for which he received 20 marks; *Final Conc.* i, 80.

John de Rawstorne (Routhesthorn) in 1292 claimed certain lands in Bury against Richard de Shuttleworth and against Eva widow of Roger de Shuttleworth, but was nonsuited; Assize R. 408, m. 33. The same property apparently was in dispute in 1343, when John son of Richard de Rawstorne held a messuage and ploughland in Bury which his father had had from John de Rawstorne the elder, and which he said was only 5 acres of land. The claimant was Agnes de Shuttleworth, who stated that she had been seised in the time of Edward I; De Banco R. 336, m. 418 d.

Margery daughter of Richard de Radcliffe, Roger de Shuttleworth, and Roger his son, in 1334 complained of a disseisin with force and arms by Robert de Horn-

of this part of the township.¹⁸ If the suppositions here made are correct this composite township represents an originally diverse tenure, Walmersley being an integral part of the manor of Bury, while Shuttleworth was part of the manor of Tottington, and came to be joined with Bury through a grant to the ancestor of Adam de Bury.

In 1796 the principal landowners were Richard Nangreaves, John Lancashire, and the Rev. [Richard] Formby.¹⁹

Complaint was made about the destruction of trees in Fletcher Wood in Walmersley in 1596.²⁰ Ellis Fletcher paid £10 on refusing knighthood in 1631.²¹

Christ Church, Walmersley, was built in 1838 for the Established worship, and rebuilt in 1883; the patronage is in the hands of five trustees.²² At Shuttleworth, St. John's in the Wilderness was built in 1848; the incumbents are presented alternately by the Crown and the Bishop of Manchester.²³

The Wesleyan Methodists have a church at Summerseat, opened in 1847, where the Primitive Methodists have a chapel also.

The Baptists have a chapel in Shuttleworth.

The Congregationalists have one at Park. It originated in a separation from Dundee Chapel, Holcombe, in 1798.²⁴

TOTTINGTON LOWER END

Totinton, 1212; Totington, 1233.

Tottington originally comprised all the northern part of the parish of Bury. Shuttleworth, as above, became incorporated with Walmersley through being given to the lord of Bury; Musbury and Cowpe Lench were placed in the hundred of Blackburn, and in the 17th or 18th century what remained of Tottington was divided into two parts—the Lower End and the Higher End, south and north respectively.

The Lower End contains the village of Tottington, with the hamlets of Woolfold, Bolholt, and Walshaw in the south; Affetside and Hawkshaw in the west; Green Mount, Holcombe Brook, Redisher, Hazelhurst, and Holcombe in the centre, and Brooksbottum, Nuttall, Nuttall Lane, and Ramsbottom (with

Tanners and Carr to its west) in the north-east, along the Irwell, which there in general forms the boundary. The north is occupied by the flat-topped Harkles Hill; which rises steeply on three sides, the summit being 1,216 ft. high. To the north-west is Scholes Height, 1,350 ft. Magnificent views may be obtained in clear weather over the surrounding country; Snowdon may sometimes be seen. On the south side of Holcombe Brook the surface again rises to the south-west, a height of 890 ft. being attained at Affetside on the border. The township has an area of 5,270½ acres.¹ The population of the present township of Tottington was 6,118 in 1901.

The principal road is that from Bury to Blackburn, passing through the village of Tottington. Along the south-west border runs another road, called Watling Street,² which meets the former within the township of Bradshaw, at a point from which a third road runs eastward through Hawkshaw to Holcombe Brook and then north-east and north to Ramsbottom and Haslingden. At Holcombe Brook it is joined by roads from the south. There are several bridges over the Irwell for roads into Walmersley and Shuttleworth. The Lancashire and Yorkshire Company's railway from Bury to Accrington runs along the eastern side of the township, crossing the Irwell several times, and having a station at Ramsbottom. A branch from Bury has stations at Woolfold, Tottington, Green Mount, and Holcombe Brook, which is the terminus.

At Holcombe are the remains of a bloomery, probably of the Tudor period.³

There is a local tradition that men slain in battle were buried at Holcombe, and weapons have been found there.⁴

On the hill above Holcombe is a lofty tower, erected in 1852 as a monument to Sir Robert Peel.

In 1666 there were as many as 178 hearths liable to the tax; the dwellings were small,⁵ Thomas Nuttall's, with five hearths, being the largest.

James Wood, master of St. John's College, Cambridge, 1805 to 1839, and Dean of Ely, was born at Birchhey, Tottington.⁶

In 1831 an annual fair was said to be held on 12 October.⁷

cliffe, Robert del Ewood, and others, and the sheriff was ordered to take them. Afterwards the parties made fine; Coram Rege R. 297, m. 6; R. 298, Rex, m. 1 d.

A partition of 10 acres of wood, &c., between Alice widow of Roger de Pilkington and Roger de Shuttleworth and Roger his son was made in 1348; De Banco R. 354, m. 3 d.

In 1408 Hugh son of Roger, son of Roger de Shuttleworth of Bury, was an outlaw, unjustly, as he alleged; Towneley MS. RR, no. 1545.

Agnes widow of John de Bradshaw and John their son released in 1427 to Ellen de Shuttleworth and Robert de Radcliffe her son all their messuages, &c., in a place called Questondene in Bury; Ct. of Wards, Deeds and Evidences, box 153, no. 7.

In 1462 William Shuttleworth made a settlement of his lands in Bury, and a portion was granted to Peter his son and Margaret the wife of Peter; and in 1481 Margaret, as widow, released to Sir Thomas Pilkington all her right in the lands which had belonged to Peter Shuttleworth, grandfather of her late husband; Dods. MS. cxlii, fol. 164, 165.

¹⁸ Isabel widow of John Leigh of Shuttleworth is named in 1425-6; *Final Conc.* iii, 124. This may refer to the Shuttleworth in Hapton, but there were in the 16th century Leighs who had land in Bury; Pal. of Lanc. Feet of F. bdle. 52, m. 126; 57, m. 50.

¹⁹ Land-tax returns at Preston.

²⁰ *Ducatus Lanc.* (Rec. Com.), iii, 343.

²¹ *Misc.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), i, 216.

²² The old church was 'a neat stone structure,' with chancel, nave, and low square tower, in which was a clock; Barton, *Bury*, 244.

²³ A district was formed in 1845; *Lond. Gaz.* 26 Aug.

²⁴ A full account of its fortunes will be found in Nightingale, *Lancs. Nonconf.* iii, 167-78. It was at Bast House, to the south-east of Gollinrod, that Henry Pendlebury exercised his ministry after being expelled from Holcombe in 1662; *ibid.* iii, 158.

¹ According to the *Census Rep.* 1901, the present townships of Tottington and Ramsbottom contain respectively 2,543 and 6,424 acres, with 26 and 76 acres of inland water.

² An 'agger' is visible.

³ *Trans. Hist. Soc.* xxiv, 60; the place is called Cinder Hill.

⁴ Rev. H. Dowsett, *Notes on Holcombe*, 55.

⁵ Subsidy R. bdle. 250, no. 9, Lancs.

⁶ He was born in 1760, his father being a weaver, who also had a small school. James was educated by him and then at Bury school; afterwards he went up to St. John's College, Cambridge, as a Kay exhibitioner and sizar. He was the typical 'poor scholar,' came out senior wrangler, was elected fellow, and ultimately master of the college. He became Dean of Ely in 1820, and rector of Freshwater in 1823, holding these preferments with the mastership. He wrote a treatise on Algebra and many other mathematical works. He was a great benefactor to the college, both in money and books, and it may be mentioned that he augmented the Kay exhibitions; Baker, *Hist. of St. John's College* (ed. Mayor), ii, 1094-1104; *Dict. Nat. Biog.* There is a memorial tablet in Holcombe Church.

⁷ Lewis's *Gazetteer*.

A HISTORY OF LANCASHIRE

Within the last century a manufacturing town has grown up at *RAMSBOTTOM*,⁸ between the road from Bury to Haslingden, there called Bolton Street, and the River Irwell, with suburbs stretching south to Hazelhurst and north to Stubbins. The principal cross street is Bridge Street, leading from the bridge across the Irwell past the railway station to Bolton Street, and then to Carr and Tanners. The brothers William and Daniel Grant, whose story is told by Dr. Smiles in *Self Help*, were intimately associated with the rise of the town.⁹ They were the originals of the Cheeryble Brothers.¹⁰ There are here iron and brass foundries, machine-making works, and great cotton manufacturing and printing works. A local board of twelve members was established in 1864;¹⁰ the area was enlarged in 1883, and now includes parts of Tottington Higher and Lower, Elton, Shuttleworth, and Walmersley.¹¹ The old township boundaries were finally obliterated in 1894, when the local board became an urban district council. The area is divided into four wards—Central, North, East, and West—each returning three members to the council. Water is supplied from the Bury Waterworks, and gas by a company. The Aitken Cottage Hospital, presented by Mrs. Aitken of Holcombe, was opened in 1900. The cemetery at Hazelhurst is under the management of a burial board. The *Ramsbottom Observer* is published every Friday. The population numbered 15,920 in 1901.

Parts of Tottington Lower End having been taken into Ramsbottom and Bury, the remainder has been constituted a township or civil parish, called Tottington simply.¹²

The fair at Tottington is held on the third Friday in August; those at Ramsbottom on 27 April and the Monday after 27 August. The wakes at the latter place begin on the second Saturday in August.

TOTTINGTON HIGHER END

The northern part of the old township stretches along the border of the hundred for over 4 miles. It is divided by the Irwell. On the west side of the river the ground rises quickly to Bull Hill on the west, 1,372 ft., from which fine views may be obtained; the valley on the northern slope of this hill was called Alden. Alden Brook is the boundary of the township and hundred. The hamlets of Stubbins

and Lumb lie near the Irwell, with Red Lees and Buckden to the west. On the east side the ground also rises, though not so rapidly, the northern border of the township and hundred being formed by the crest of a hill, which on the boundary of Rochdale attains a height of 1,550 ft., being there known as Hailstorm Hill. The high lands are occupied by Dearden and Tottington Moors. On the western slope of this eminence is the village of Edenfield, with Newhall to the east, Chatterton to the west, Hardsough and Crow Woods to the north-west, and Balladen and Horncliffe to the north. The area of this part of the township is 3,545 acres.

The principal roads are those leading from Bury to Haslingden, on the west of the Irwell, and to Rawtenstall on the east side. The latter is joined at Edenfield by roads from Ramsbottom and from Rochdale. The Lancashire and Yorkshire Company's railway from Bury to Accrington runs north through the township, and has a station at Stubbins; here the Bacup branch separates, and it has a station called Ewood Bridge and Edenfield, at Ashen Bottom, on the northern boundary.

On Holcombe Moor, beside a footpath running south along the hillside, stood the base of Whowell Cross, or the Pilgrim's Cross, until 1901, when it was wilfully destroyed. A memorial stone has been placed on the spot.¹ 'Robin Hood's Well' is a mile to the north.² On Bull Hill are remains of an early neolithic floor.³

The hearths liable to the tax in 1666 numbered seventy-four; the only large house was Robert Holt's, New Hall, with ten hearths.⁴

Tottington Higher End has now ceased to exist as a township, having been divided between Ramsbottom, Rawtenstall, and Haslingden.⁵

The manor or
MANOR fee of **TOTTINGTON** was

held by the Montbegon and Lacy families, and passed to the Crown in the manner described in the account of the Clitheroe barony.⁶ The Duke of Buccleuch is the present lord of the manor. The service due from the whole fee seems to have



MONTAGU-DOUGLAS-SCOTT, Duke of Buccleuch. *Or on a bend azure a mullet of six points between two crescents of the field.*

⁸ Rommesbothum, 1292. The story of the town is told in Barton, *Bury*, 208-21. The writer states that the Radical and Chartist movement took strong hold of Ramsbottom. In 1826, a time of bad trade, an attempt was made to destroy the power looms at Chatterton; and 'plug drawing' took place at a later time.

⁹ The Grants, father and mother, with four sons and two daughters—William, John, Daniel, Charles, Elizabeth, and Isabella—settled in Bury, where they worked in the mills, travelled as chapmen, opened a shop, &c. They prospered, and according to the *Dir.* of 1825 William Grant & Brothers then had factories at Nuttall and Ramsbottom, and John Grant was living at Nuttall Hall. William Grant, the chief partner, born in 1769, died at Springside, near Bury, in 1842. Daniel and John Grant died in 1855. William Grant, the last of the

male line, nephew of the preceding William, died 30 May 1873 at Grange. The estates have come to Sir John Grant Lawson, a grandson, by his mother Isabella, of John Grant of Nuttall; Burke, *Landed Gentry*, Lawson of Aldborough.

¹⁰ See W. Hume Elliot, *Country and Church of the Cheeryble Brothers*, and *Story of the Cheeryble Grants*.

¹¹ *Lond. Gaz.* 18 Mar. 1864.

¹² 46 & 47 Vict. cap. 225.

¹³ This change took place in 1894, when the township was also extended to include a part of Elton; Local Govt. Bd. Orders 31671 and 32291.

¹ For a full account, with illustration, see Rev. H. Dowsett, *Notes on Holcombe*, 21-35, 119-32, 139-42; and the same writer's *Holcombe Long Ago*, 109, &c. See *ibid.* 68, for an account of the pile of stones known as 'Ellen Strange.' See also *Lancs. and Ches. Antiq. Soc.* xxii, 151.

² Dowsett, *op. cit.* 75.

³ *Lancs. and Ches. Antiq. Soc.* iv, 304; also *Notes on Holcombe*, 17.

⁴ Subs. R. bdle. 250, no. 9, Lancs.

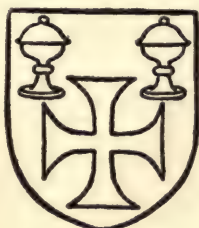
⁵ The final change took place in 1894 by Local Govt. Bd. Orders 31671 and 32291.

⁶ *V.C.H. Lancs.* i, 312, 319. Dower in Tottington was claimed in 1233 by Olive, widow of Roger de Montbegon; *Final Conc.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), i, 145. In 1235 the lordship was sold to John de Lacy by Henry de Monewdon; *Duchy of Lanc. Great Couches*, i, 63.

Tottington occurs in the extent of the lands of John de Lacy in 1241-2; it was worth £7 1s. 5d.; *Inq. and Extents* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), i, 157. The manor had been granted to William de la Mare, who in 1274 exchanged it with Henry de Lacy for Longton in Leyland; *Final Conc.* i, 152.

been performed by the dependent manors of Bury, Middleton, and Chadderton, so that Tottington proper, including perhaps Shuttleworth, was free. In 1324, however, it was stated that the lords had been accustomed to pay 18*d.* to a service called Grayngall,⁷ and in 1348 a payment of 16*d.* was made.⁸ The service due from Tottington was about the same time called the fifth part of a knight's fee.⁹

It appears to have been regarded as a free chase.¹⁰ A grant of gallows was obtained by Henry de Lacy from Henry III.¹¹ Four oxgangs were granted by Adam de Montbegon to Ailward de Bury in free marriage with Alice daughter of the grantor.¹² A moiety of Shuttleworth was given to the Bury family,



MONK BRETTON PRIORY. *Sable in chief two covered cups, in base a cross formy argent.*

and some other grants were made; Cowpe, Lench, and Musbury were placed within the forest of Rossendale, and Holcombe was given to the monks of Monk Bretton, near Pontefract.¹³ In the time of Richard III Holcombe had been annexed to the duchy of Lancaster, but the monks' claim seems to have been admitted, and they received the advowson of Darton as compensation.¹⁴ The monks' lands were granted out at a rent of 13*s.* 4*d.* a year,¹⁵ and after the Dissolution were in 1546 granted to John Braddyll of Whalley.¹⁶

The *Compoti* of 1296 and 1305¹⁷ and the inquisition of 1311¹⁸ give particulars of the receipts. There was a capital messuage; 100 acres of land were demised to tenants at will, as also were the eight oxgangs; the courts, water-mill, pasture, and Musbury Park also produced an income.¹⁹ The free tenants seem to have been Henry de Bury for half the manor of Shuttleworth,²⁰ Richard de Radcliffe,²¹ Robert de Bradshaw,²² and Roger de Chadderton for Shillingbottom.²³ The court rolls of 1323 and 1324 contain many interesting particulars.²⁴

⁷ Dods. MSS. cxxxi, fol. 37.

⁸ Sheriff's Compotus, 22 Edw. III.

⁹ Feud. Aids, iii, 87. A similar statement was made in 1431; *ibid.* iii, 96.

¹⁰ Whitaker, *Whalley* (ed. Nicholls), i, 323. In 1313 it was described as one of the free chases of Thomas, Earl of Lancaster; *Cal. Pat.* 1313-17, p. 65. In 1327 Tottington was granted to Queen Isabel, and a number of trespasses on the chase were reported; *ibid.* 1327-30, pp. 69, 284; 1343-5, p. 417, &c.

¹¹ Whitaker, *Whalley*, i, 326, quoting 'Towneley MSS.'

¹² *Lancs. Inq. and Extents*, i, 61. William de Peniston held the land in 1212 with Cecily daughter of Alice. In 1278 Helewise widow of Adam de Peniston was non-suited in her claim against Henry de Lacy, Earl of Lincoln, and Gilbert de Clifton respecting a tenement in Tottington; *Assize R.* 1268, m. 13. Afterwards, in 1292, William Helewise, son of Adam de Peniston, sought to recover the 4 oxgangs which Henry de Lacy had taken into his hands, but failed, the jury saying that he was born out of wedlock; *ibid.* 408, m. 56.

A grant by Henry de Montbegon to Robert son of Uriel de Tottington is in Towneley MS. DD, no. 852.

¹³ Roger de Montbegon, who died in 1226, granted to Monk Bretton all his forest called Holcombe. The bounds mention Longshaw Head, Alden Head, Harcles How, Pilgrim's Cross Shaw, Tittleshaw (Titeles How), the Robbers' Path, Salter Bridge, and the road by Oskeley. He reserved hunting and falcons. Pasture was allowed within bounds from Caldwell Head and Syke to the Irwell, by this river to Tittleshaw Brook, and up this brook to the road. Three acres of meadow under Harcles How were also granted. The whole was given in free alms for the souls of the donor and his wife, parents, brother John Malherbe, and others; Whitaker, *Whalley*, i, 324. This charter is perhaps an extension or correction of two others (*ibid.* i, 325), which profess to give the whole of Holcombe and pasture rights; but the boundaries do not agree. See also Dugdale, *Mon.* v, 138.

The monks appear to have lost their land soon afterwards, but in 1304-5 occurs a loss of rent of 5*s.* 9*d.* from land which had been restored to them; *De Lacy Compoti* (Chet. Soc.), 114.

In 1346 the Prior of Monk Bretton claimed against Queen Isabel 1,500 acres of pasture and 1,500 acres of wood in Tottington, of which Henry de Lacy had dispossessed his predecessor, William de Rihale, prior in the time of Edward I; *De Banco R.* 348, m. 218.

¹⁴ Whitaker, *Whalley*, i, 325; the date is 8 Feb. 1483-4. Also *Cal. Pat.* 1476-85, p. 388.

¹⁵ Dugdale, *Mon.* v, 141.

¹⁶ *Pat.* 38 Hen. VIII, pt. ix.

¹⁷ *Chet. Soc. Publ.* cxii.

¹⁸ *Ibid.* lxxiv.

In 1295-6 the rent of Tottington was £13 12*s.* 6*d.*; the rents of free tenants came to 4*s.* 11*d.*; fines of lands, court fees, &c., brought in £4 14*s.*; the mill, 26*s.*; and stallage, herbage, pannage, &c., £7 19*s.* 1*d.* The total given—£27 17*s.* 8*d.*—is a little in excess of the details; *Compoti*, 5.

In 1304-5, excluding the £4 10*s.* scutage for the army of Scotland, the profits amounted to £38 1*s.* 6*d.*; most of the items showed an increase, allowance being made for the park newly formed at Musbury. A new appraisement of 60½ acres of land yielded 20*s.* 3*d.* for the first year; *ibid.* 100-1.

¹⁹ *De Lacy Inq.* 19; Whitaker, *Whalley*, i, 326, 327. The total estimated net value was only £6 6*s.* 3½*d.*, against gross receipts of £38 in 1304-5.

In 1399-1400 the bailiwick of Tottington produced 47*s.* 7*d.* and the manor £33 19*s.* 9*d.*; Farrer, *Clitheroe Ct. R.* 489.

In 1505 the mills were leased to Sir John Booth for twenty-one years; Duchy of Lanc. Misc. Books, xxi, A/59 d.

²⁰ See the account of Shuttleworth.

²¹ The Radcliffes of Radcliffe continued to hold this land till the beginning of the 16th century. Richard son of Robert de Radcliffe in 1292 claimed 80 acres of pasture in Tottington against Henry de Lacy, Earl of Lincoln, but withdrew; *Assize R.* 408, m. 57. In 1295 Richard de Radcliffe held 20 acres by the earl's charter at a rent of 3*s.*, and he paid 10*d.* for 2½ acres, inclosed with the preceding land, but held at will; *Compoti*, 5. The court roll of September 1513 shows that John Radcliffe had recently died, holding Holehouse and lands in Tottington; his nephew John was his heir. The roll of September 1517 states that John Radcliffe had held Holehouse, and 25 acres,

with common rights in Alden; he left a widow Mary, and his heirs were his four sisters.

²² In 1311 Robert de Bradshagh held a pasture freely by the service of 12*d.* a year; *De Lacy Inq.* 19. The court rolls for 1508, 1543, and 1551 show that this estate was an acre at Affetside.

²³ Geoffrey de Chadderton for Shillingbottom in 1295-6 gave 1½*d.* in lieu of a pound of cummin, and the same in 1304-5; *Compoti*, 5, 177. In 1311 Roger de Chadderton held 12 acres on the same terms; *De Lacy Inq.* 19. Roger de Chadderton in 1325 had licence to enfeof Robert son of Roger de Chadderton of a messuage, &c., in Tottington; *Cal. Pat.* 1324-7, p. 182. From the court roll of 1528 it appears that William Chadderton had held the Peel in Tottington; Edmund was his son and heir. In 1550 Edmund was dead, and George his son and heir succeeded to the Peel and lands in Tottington and Edenfield; while in June 1551 George Chadderton of Nuthurst sold Shillingbottom to Thurstan Hamer. Thurstan Hamer had land in Buckden in 1547.

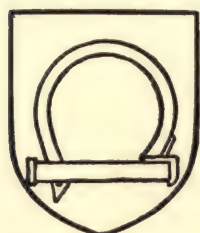
The estate was in 1849 the property of Robert Nuttall of Kempsey; Raines MSS. xxxi, fol. 333, &c.

²⁴ *Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Chet.* xli, 6-15. Fines were paid, for instance, for licence to brew, for selling bad ale, for multure carried away, for a sparrow-hawk taken in the forest, and for 'Haymald' of a colt.

There are numerous later court rolls from 1507 onwards, some preserved at Clitheroe Castle and some at the Public Record Office. The courts were held at Holcombe twice or thrice a year, usually in June and October, both for the manor and fee of Tottington. The judges, who were the lords of the manors, were required to attend from Bury, Middleton, Alkrington, and Chadderton; also two constables from each of these townships. The officers of the manor or 'greaveship' of Tottington were the greave, appraisers, supervisors of bread and ale, byrlaw men, affeerers of the court, and sometimes fence-lookers, and moor and moss-lookers, appointed annually. The usual business of such courts was done. The common pastures of Duerden, Affetside, Wykeside, and Hawkshaw were regulated, highways kept in order, and complaints heard about mills, foids, &c.

A HISTORY OF LANCASHIRE

The principal local families were the Nuttalls,²⁵ Rawstornes,²⁶ Ramsbottoms,²⁷ and Booths²⁸; but of



NUTTALL. *Argent a shack-bolt sable.*



RAWSTORNE. *Per pale azure and gules a castle triple-towered or.*

In 1516 it was stated that the court had not been held from three weeks to three weeks because there was no court-house. There was then no pinfold. The tenants had been summoned to the wapentake court at Salford, to which they did not owe suit. The miller of Coldwall mill in 1560 had not kept the 'mill fleam' 1½ ft. deep and 3 ft. wide. Stocks for the punishment of malefactors were asked for in 1525. One woman and her daughter were reported in 1530 for absenting themselves from divine service on feast days and other days all the year round. Forbidden games received notice; Edmund Lomax of Crossclough and another were in 1522 common players at cards, &c., in time of divine service, at mass on feast days; and in 1545 bowling alleys were suppressed at Holcombe and Edenfield. Common regrotors and forestallers were punished. Edmund Greenhalgh was in 1520 fined for levying a toll on people going through to the markets in a place called Shuttleworth in Tottington. Several were fined for obtaining turf, stone, and slate stones without licence, or for obtaining them and selling to persons outside the manor.

Ministers' accounts for Clitheroe in 1341-2 give particulars of Tottington, with its two mills and chase, and mention the keeper of Musbury; Mins. Accts. bble. 1091, no. 6.

²⁵ The family took its name from Nuttall, originally Nuthough or Nuthaw, on the bank of the Irwell. Roger de Noteho was a defendant in a Bury mill case in 1256; *Final Conc.* i, 120; and Richard son of Thomas de Notehoh had a grant of land; Towneley MS. DD, no. 864. Richard de Notehoh in 1332 contributed to the subsidy in Bury; *Exch. Lay Subs.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), 33. James Bury in 1479 complained that some of his cattle at Gooden and Woodroad had been taken by Henry and Geoffrey Nuttall of Bury, Charles Nuttall of Tottington, and others; Pal. of Lanc. Writs Proton. file 19 Edw. IV, b.

There were two branches of the family established in Tottington—Nuttall of Nuttall, and Nuttall of Tottington Hall. Of the former family was Richard de Nuttall, who in 1408 leased to his son William all that land called Nuttall (Nuthogh) in Tottington, with the buildings thereon, lately leased to Henry de Nuttall; Ormerod, *Parentalia*, 40. Henry son of a later Richard Nuttall of Nuttall in 1491 acquired Gollinrod in Walmersley; *ibid.* 41.

From the court rolls it appears that Richard Nuttall died in 1510 holding four messuages, 120 acres of land, &c., Charles being his son and heir. In October 1537 Charles Nuttall made a settlement of his lands in Little Hol-

combe; and in 1549 he made a further settlement, Richard his son and heir, being a party. In 1561 Richard Nuttall, whose heir was his son Charles, made a lease of certain land. Charles Nuttall, gentleman, was buried 8 Mar. 1604-5; Charles Nuttall of Holcombe, 1 Aug. 1613; and Richard Nuttall of Nuttall, 20 Jan. 1616-17; Bury Reg. Charles Nuttall of Nuttall was a freeholder in 1600, and another Charles contributed to the subsidy in 1622; *Misc.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), i, 248, 162. He was living in 1624, and Blome names the family in his list of Lancashire gentry in 1673; Ormerod, *op. cit.* 41. 'The estate passed from this family, probably by marriage, to Miles Lonsdale, of Field House, Esq., about the year 1698, and was conveyed by his descendant and representative, Ann, only child of Henry Lonsdale, Esq., about 1790, in marriage to the Rev. Richard Formby of Formby, LL.B., by whom it was sold to Mr. Grant'; Raines, in *Notitia Cestr.* ii, 30, 32.

Of the Tottington Hall family was Ralph Nuttall, who according to the court rolls died in 1530 holding two messuages, 6 oxgangs of land, and a third part of 64 acres called Roodland in Tottington, with common of pasture in Alden; also a messuage, &c., in Deardenfield. Thomas Nuttall, his son and heir, was admitted on a fine of 20s. Emmot, widow of Giles Nuttall, perhaps of another family, occurs in the roll of 1541.

Thomas Nuttall of Tottington was a freeholder in 1600, while Ralph Nuttall contributed to the subsidy of 1622; *Misc.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), i, 248, 162. From the Bury Registers it appears that Thomas Nuttall, gentleman, was buried 19 June 1609; and Thomas Nuttall of Tottington 12 Oct. 1614. These are probably the father and son who head the Nuttall pedigree recorded in 1664-5; Dugdale, *Visit.* (Chet. Soc.), 222.

A further account of this family will be found under Oldham; they are now represented by the Radclyffes of Foxdenton. Some documents concerning them are in Raines MSS. (Chet. Lib.), xxiv, fol. 245-57. Thomas Nuttall, who died about 1727, built a schoolhouse at Tottington and left £3 a year towards the endowment; *End. Cbar. Rep.* Bury, 1901, p. 6. Mr. Grimshaw was owner of Tottington Hall in 1828; *ibid.* 8.

²⁶ The name was originally Routhesthorn, and has taken a great variety of forms; including Roston. Adam de Rawsthorne was defendant to a plea by Roger son of Geoffrey son of Joan de Bury in 1304; *Coram Rege* R. 176, m. 48. Adam the elder and Adam the younger contributed to the subsidy of 1332; *Exch. Lay Subs.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), 36, 37.

Lumb Hall in Edenfield is said to have been the seat of Adam Rawsthorne in 1482; Raines, in *Notitia Cestr.* ii, 30. From the court rolls it appears that Adam Rawsthorne died in 1508 holding five messuages and 15 acres of roodland, he left a widow Ellen, and a son and heir

combe; and in 1549 he made a further settlement, Richard his son and heir, being a party. In 1561 Richard Nuttall, whose heir was his son Charles, made a lease of certain land. Charles Nuttall, gentleman, was buried 8 Mar. 1604-5; Charles Nuttall of Hol-

Henry. In 1528 Henry Rawsthorne died, his son and heir Adam succeeding. Adam Rawsthorne of the Lumb and Richard his son were concerned in a covenant of marriage with Richard Ormerod of Wolfenden in 1551. Adam died in 1562, and Richard, as son and heir, succeeded.

The will of Richard Rawsthorne (1580) is printed in Piccope, *Wills* (Chet. Soc.), ii, 168; it mentions his wife Agnes, his sons Richard, the heir, Adam, parson of Bircham Newton (Norfolk), and Lawrence, 'scholar,' and his daughter Ellen, wife of Thomas Fish. The will of his widow Agnes (1594) is also printed; *ibid.* iii, 146. Richard, the son and heir, was buried in 1593; Bury Reg. His will (1593) is printed; Piccope, *op. cit.* iii, 38; his son Edward was the heir, but legacies were given to younger children and others. Certain furniture, including seven silver spoons, were to remain as heirlooms at the capital house of the Lumb. The will of his widow Eleanor (1599) is in *Wills* (Chet. Soc. new ser.), i, 226.

Edward Rawsthorne of Lumb was a freeholder in 1600, and contributed to the subsidy in 1622; *Misc.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), i, 247, 162. He died 20 Dec. 1634, holding lands in Ditton of the king as of his manor of West Derby; the Tottington estate is not mentioned. The heir was his grandson Edward (son of Edward), two years of age; Duchy of Lanc. Inq. p.m. xxviii, no. 23. Edward Rawsthorne of the Lumb, no doubt the father of the heir, was buried 16 Mar. 1631-2; and Edward son of Edward Rawsthorne of the Lumb was baptized 23 May 1632; Bury Reg. It is said to have been the second Edward's daughter and heir Elizabeth who conveyed the estate in marriage about 1660 to Thomas Bradshaw of Bradshaw; Raines, in *Notitia Cestr.* ii, 30. Oliver Heywood tells the following story, which illustrates a popular superstition: 'Mr. Rawsthorne of Lumb and Mr. Thomas Bradshaw walked out and after they had drunk a cup of ale returned home. Going in the night by a pit side Mr. Rawsthorne (being troubled with the falling sickness) fell in; Mr. Bradshaw leapt after him to take him out, because he could swim, but they were both drowned. Mr. R. swam at top, but Mr. B. could not be found. A woman bade them cast a white loaf in, and they doing so it would not be removed from over the place where he was; so they took him up, and they were buried together. A sad family it was, my brother being eye-witness thereof'; *Diaries*, iii, 89. The date seems to be Dec. 1664. There is a pedigree in Piccope MSS. (Chet. Lib.), i, 162, in which it is stated that Elizabeth's son Thomas had a son and heir Rawsthorne Bradshaw, born in 1689, who, finding the estate much encumbered with debts, sold it in 1725 to Miles Lonsdale.

New Hall in Edenfield is stated to have been purchased in 1538 by Lawrence Rawstorne of Windsor; Raines, *loc. cit.* In 1556-7 Lawrence Rawstorne of New Hall made a settlement of his lands; he mentions William and Edward his sons and Jane his daughter; the trustees were William son and heir of John Orrell of Turton; Thomas son and heir of Ralph Nuttall of Bury; and Peter son and heir of James Heywood of Bury; Raines MSS. (Chet. Lib.), xiv, fol. 89. He is mentioned in the court rolls in 1538 and 1541.

these and others²⁹ only meagre accounts can be given. The Greenhalghs of Brandlesholme were hereditary bailiffs of the manor,³⁰ and one branch of them settled here.³¹

Edward Rawstorne of New Hall was a freeholder in 1600, and one of the same name contributed to the subsidy in 1622; *Misc.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), i, 246, 162. Edward Rawstorne was sheriff in 1628-9; *P.R.O. List*, 73. During the Civil War Captain Edward Rawstorne, probably a son of the last-named, took an active part on the king's side, being engaged in the defence of Lathom House, and being appointed colonel and governor of it by Prince Rupert; he was compelled to surrender it by famine and mutiny; *Civil War Tracts* (Chet. Soc.), 169-84, 201, 212. His estates were sequestered by the Parliament; he died without male issue in or before 1650, when his brother and heir Lawrence, 'having faithfully served Parliament,' claimed the restoration of the estate under a settlement made about 1620 by his grandfather, with remainders to Edward, claimant's father, to Edward his eldest son, the 'delinquent,' and heirs male; *Cal. of Com. for Comp.* iv, 2653. The estates were restored to Lawrence.

A pedigree was recorded in 1664; Dugdale, *Visit.* (Chet. Soc.), 248. Of this family Lawrence Rawstorne was sheriff of the county in 1680-1, William his son in 1712, Lawrence, grandson of the latter, in 1776; *P.R.O. List*, 73, 74. Lawrence son of Lawrence purchased Penwortham, and is represented by Mr. Lawrence Rawstorne of Penwortham, recently the owner of New Hall; see Burke, *Landed Gentry*. There is a pedigree in Piccope MSS. (Chet. Lib.), i, fol. 159. The Bury Water Board has obtained an Act for the purchase of the estate.

²⁷ From the Tottington Court Rolls it appears that Geoffrey Ramsbottom died in or before 1532, holding Ramsbottom, Digfield, and Carr House; he left a widow Alice, and his next of kin was one Richard Ramsbottom. In 1540 Richard son and heir of Edmund Ramsbottom and Joan his wife sold or mortgaged Ramsbottom and the other lands to Thomas Warburton of Little Clegg.

In 1562 Richard Ramsbottom of Ramsbottom was found to be kinsman and heir of Elizabeth, widow of Lawrence Rawstorne.

Francis Gartside in 1573 had the water corn-mill of Caldwell under Geoffrey Ramsbottom; *Ducatus Lanc.* (Rec. Com.), iii, 6, 43.

Richard Ramsbottom contributed to the subsidy in 1622; *Misc.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), i, 162.

²⁸ In the court rolls it is stated that Richard son and heir of John Booth asked admission to messuages and land, with common of pasture, &c., in Alden. He appeared again in 1509; the property was a messuage and 42 acres in the Booth, a messuage and oxgang in the Old Earth, and a messuage, &c., in the Hollins in Edenfield. Richard Booth, perhaps the same, died in 1564, holding various land and the fourth part of an oxgang; two sons are mentioned—Christopher, the heir, and Richard; Richard the son of Christopher had a wife, Alice.

Richard Booth in 1573 claimed a capital messuage in Tottington against Thomas Holden; *Ducatus Lanc.* iii, 3. Another of this name contributed to the subsidy in 1622; *Misc.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs.

and Ches.), i, 162. A pedigree was recorded in 1665 showing that John Booth, who died about 1615, had a son Richard living in 1665, with a son George, aged thirty-four, and a grandson William, aged five; Dugdale, *Visit.* 44. In 1682 William son and heir of George Booth and grandson of Richard Booth by Margaret his wife was admitted at Tottington Court to a messuage in Booth Lane; but ten years earlier James Lomax of Unsworth appears to have purchased Booth Hall. His daughter and heir Elizabeth married John Halliwell of Pike House, and their son John died intestate in 1771; Raines MSS. (Chet. Lib.), xxxi, fol. 345-6. It descended to John Beswicke, and after his death was in 1796 sold to Robert Nuttall of Bury, whose grandson, Robert Nuttall of Kempsey, was the owner in 1849; Raines, in *Notitia Cestr.* ii, 31.

²⁹ Henry de Lacy in 1302 granted that Geoffrey de Elton should in future hold freely that tenement he had held at will, paying 13s. 4d. a year; Add. MS. 32104, no. 966. In 1511 Robert Elton was admitted to a messuage and 20 acres in Edenfield. He died in 1548 or 1549, and his son Roger succeeded him; Ct. R.

Lands were held in Horncliffe about 1355 by Hugh son of Robert de Horncliffe; *Dep. Keeper's Rep.* xxxii, App. 344.

The Warburton family occur early. Thomas de Warburton paid to the subsidy in Bury in 1332; *Exch. Lay Subs.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), 33. Two years earlier he had acquired a messuage in Tottington, in the possession of John del Heywood and Margery his wife, the widow of Roger de Red Lees; *Final Conc.* ii, 75, 76. In 1539 Thomas Warburton seems to have been the owner and George Warburton the tenant of Red Lees; Ct. R. A Thomas Warburton contributed to the subsidy in 1622; *Misc.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), i, 162. Of this family perhaps was John Warburton, F.R.S., F.S.A., Somerset Herald, son of Benjamin Warburton of Bury by his wife Mary, daughter and heir of Michael Buxton of Buxton. He was born in 1681 and died in 1759. A full account of him is given in Baines, *Lancs.* (ed. 1836), ii, 678; also *Dict. Nat. Biog.*

John Nabbs of Tottington was a freeholder in 1600; *Misc.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), i, 247. The surname occurs in the court rolls.

Edward Rothwell died in 1530, leaving Peter his son as heir. Margaret widow of Edmund is named in 1547. Adam Rothwell died in 1561, leaving John his idiot brother as heir; another Adam died about the same time, the heir being his son Thomas; Ct. R.

There appear to have been several Holt families in Tottington. Robert del Holt of Tottington in 1429 complained that Richard son of Richard de Radcliffe of Radcliffe and others had broken into his close at Tottington and taken his cows; Pal. of Lanc. Plea R. 2, m. 13b. Christopher Holt in 1512 or 1513 made a settlement of his estate. He died in 1517, holding Hollingrave, Birch Hey, and Wood Hey; Geoffrey was his son and heir. Geoffrey died in 1541, leaving the estate to his son Christopher. George Holt died in 1523, his heir being his son

William; Ct. R. John Holt in 1622 contributed to the subsidy for his lands; *Misc.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), i, 162.

Roger Holt married Jane cousin and heir of Oliver Law, and they had disputes, about 1540, with Edmund Law concerning lands in Alden; *Ducatus Lanc.* (Rec. Com.), i, 163, 208; ii, 73. From the Court Rolls of 1544 it appears that Jane was the daughter and heir of John son and heir of Oliver Law. There was a dispute as to the measure of the land, whether it was by 8 or 7 cloth yards to the rod. Oliver son of Edmund Law held the Law in Tottington in 1551.

Robert Holt left several daughters as heirs to lands in Alden, Holcombe, and Blacklow; Alice, one of the daughters, was in 1595 the wife of John Greenhalgh, and Margaret, another, the wife of John Belfield; *Ducatus Lanc.* (Rec. Com.), iii, 336, 353.

Croichley seems to have been in the possession of the Ley and Leyland families. Robert Leyland in 1539 made a feoffment of 'Crichlow'; the rent to the king as chief lord was 3s. 8d.; Ct. R.

Other families named in the Court Rolls are Ashworth, Bamford, Barton, Brook, Bury, Chadwick, Elcock, Haslam (Walshaw), Holden, Lomax, Robert, Scholefield (of Carr), and Wood.

Tottington occurs as a surname in 1292, when Henry son of Hugh de Tottington and Mabel his wife claimed a tenement held by Alexander son of Adam de Tottington, but were non-suited; Assize R. 408, m. 32 d.

A full list of the tenants and freeholders in 1443 is given in W. Farrer's *Clitheroe Ct. R.* i, 501, 507.

Giles Morris and Agnes his wife laid claim to a messuage and lands in Tottington about 1553; *Ducatus Lanc.* (Rec. Com.), i, 300; ii, 157. In 1560 Agnes Morris, widow, made a settlement of her lands, with remainders to her sons Richard and William; Pal. of Lanc. Feet of F. bde. 22, m. 16. Soon afterwards Agnes married George Birch, and disputes began with John Ainsworth, who claimed under the will of a grandfather; *Ducatus Lanc.* (Rec. Com.), ii, 259, 273, 384; iii, 24. A settlement appears to have been made in 1582 by John Ainsworth and Jane his wife, and Richard Morris and Dorothy his wife; Pal. of Lanc. Feet of F. bde. 44, m. 153.

Richard Towneley, who died in 1636, had lands in Edenfield and Tottington; *Lancs. Inq. p.m.* (Chet. Soc.), ii, 165.

³⁰ Whitaker, *Whalley*, i, 327; *Duchy Plead.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), ii, 108.

³¹ Geoffrey Greenhalgh died in 1552, holding a messuage and land in Tottington; Thomas was his son and heir; Ct. R.

John Greenhalgh had a capital messuage called Fearnas and land which he in 1592 settled upon his son Thomas and his issue by Christabel his wife. Thomas succeeded his father, and died in 1608 without issue, Richard Greenhalgh, his brother and heir, being over forty years of age. The lands were held of John Holt in socage, by a rent of 6d.; *Lancs. Inq. p.m.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), i, 129.

A HISTORY OF LANCASHIRE

Numerous disputes are on record concerning the wastes and commons.³² In 1618 the tenants agreed to pay a composition of £1,420, and arrearages of £264 for a confirmation of their title as copyholders, but this was not fully carried out until 1669.³³

The land tax returns show that the principal proprietors in Tottington Higher End in 1796 were the Rev. Mr. Formby and Lawrence Rawstorne; and in Lower End in 1797 William Lomax and Thomas Barcroft.³⁴

Ancient chapels exist at Holcombe³⁵
CHURCHES and Edenfield. At **HOLCOMBE** there remained in 1552 two sets of vestments, some bells, and other 'ornaments.'³⁶ After this time Holcombe Chapel probably continued to be 'maintained by the inhabitants,'³⁷ there being no endowment, and in 1634 it had a curate of its own.³⁸ The steward of the king's courts for Tottington held the courts in this chapel in 1633; on finding the building locked against him he fined the wardens £40. The commissioners of 1650 found it vacant 'for want of maintenance,' and recommended that it be

made a parish church.³⁹ From the Restoration to the beginning of last century this chapel and Edenfield appear to have been served by the same curate.⁴⁰ It was enlarged in 1714 and again in 1774, and rebuilt in 1853; it is now called Emmanuel Church.⁴¹ A separate district was assigned to it in 1863.⁴² The rector of Bury is patron.

The following have been curates and rectors :—⁴³

oc. 1609	Thomas Scholefield ⁴⁴
oc. 1615	William Rathbone
oc. 1620, 1624	John Blagge (or Bragge) ⁴⁵
oc. 1634-41	Edmond Brooks ⁴⁶
oc. 1645	John Pollitt ⁴⁷
oc. 1645	Nicholas Cudworth ⁴⁸
oc. 1647-48	Robert Gilbody ⁴⁹
1652	Henry Pendlebury, M.A. ⁵⁰ (Christ's Coll. Camb.)
oc. 1667-91	John Warburton, M.A. ⁵¹
oc. 1696	William Richardson
oc. 1705	James Murray
oc. 1712	Richard Slater

³² In 1540 Robert Holt and other tenants of Tottington made complaint against John Bradshaw and others respecting the common in Affetside; *Ducatus Lanc.* (Rec. Com.), ii, 62, 72. In 1554 the tenants complained that Roger Gartside had trespassed on the waste; *ibid.* i, 282.

³³ The documents are printed in Mr. Dowsett's *Holcombe Long Ago*, 25-36; see also *Lancs. and Ches. Rec.* (Lancs. and Ches. Rec. Soc.), ii, 276, 277. The tenants alleged 'with regard to their ancient copyhold lands and the commons, &c. (which they owned were the king's and had never been demised by copy of Court Roll), that they had usually and respectively every one in his own copyhold land been accustomed, time immemorial, at their free will and pleasure upon any occasion to dig, take, and get coals, slate stones and other stones, marl, clay, sods, turves, and peat,' and had common of pasture and turbary on the commons, moors, and waste grounds, and liberty to get coal, slate stones, &c., for use upon their lands in Tottington. They had resisted 'the arbitrary, excessive, and unaccustomed fines which had of late been taxed and claimed,' but made a composition as stated in the text. An Act of Parliament was to have been passed for confirming the title, but nothing was done till 1641. This Bill did not receive the royal assent, and an Act in 1650 being judged insecure, another Act was passed in 1662; 23 & 24 Chas. II, cap. 21 (private).

A grant of two mills in Tottington was made in 1609; Pat. 7 Jas. I, pt. vii.

³⁴ Land tax returns at Preston.

³⁵ This chapel is probably of remote origin. It is mentioned incidentally in the Tottington Court Roll of 1509, Richard Kay of Sheep Hey having made an assault on Hugh Hartside in the chapel of Holcombe.

The spelling Holecumbe occurs in 1265 in a plea in Curia Regis R. 179, m. 5 d.

³⁶ *Ch. Goods* (Chet. Soc.), 46. The goods of the chapel were sold for £3 6s. 8d.; Raines, *Chantries* (Chet. Soc.), ii, 271, 273. Warden Wroe reported that it was consecrated in the time of Elizabeth; *Notitia Cestr.* ii, 33. Perhaps the old building had become

ruinous, for in 1717 it was the tradition that the existing chapel had been built for a prison. It was 49 ft. long by 23 ft. 9 in. wide, and 10 ft. 9 in. high. The pulpit, screen, and some of the oak benches were set up in 1696. In 1714 it was repewed, a reading desk and warden's pew being erected out of old benches; *ibid.* ii, 36 n.

³⁷ So about 1610; *Hist. MSS. Com. Rep.* xiv, App. iv, 12.

³⁸ This seems to have been a temporary arrangement, enforced by Bishop Bridgeman, who 'compelled each chapelry [i.e. Holcombe and Edenfield] to allow £10 per annum apiece to the minister whom they should choose, or he should send, to officiate once a month in each chapel; but now [1706] there are only contributions of about £8 per annum to both;' *Notitia*, loc. cit. The number of services required should be noticed; it was no doubt an improvement on what had been. The monthly service continued down to 1733, when the curate began a fortnightly service, going to Edenfield the alternate Sundays; *Holcombe Long Ago*, 85.

³⁹ *Commonwealth Ch. Surv.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), 44. Holcombe was made a separate parish in 1659, but this decree was treated as null on the Restoration; *Plund. Mins. Accts.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), ii, 274. The Lower End of Tottington was assigned to it; a list of the tenants is given.

⁴⁰ So Bishop Gastrell, loc. sup. cit.; 'nothing certain' then belonged to the chapel.

⁴¹ Holcombe became a perpetual curacy in 1725. In addition to the fortnightly Sunday service, with two sermons, the sacrament was administered four times a year. On Easter Day, Whit Sunday, and Christmas Day, the incumbent attended at the mother church of Bury; *Holcombe Long Ago*, 85.

The old chapel was taken down in 1851; an account of it and the building of the present church is given in the work cited, 87-98. There is a view in *Notes on Holcombe*, 69.

⁴² *Lond. Gas.* 20 Nov. 1863. It was declared a rectory in 1866; *ibid.* 3 Apr.

⁴³ This list is mainly taken from Mr. Dowsett's *Notes on Holcombe*, 82-5, and *Holcombe Long Ago*, 138.

⁴⁴ Visit. List at Chest. Dioc. Reg.

⁴⁵ Note by Mr. Earwaker from Chest. Registry.

⁴⁶ *Misc.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), i, 95. His name occurs at the end of the Protestation of 1641.

⁴⁷ Afterwards at Milnrow.

⁴⁸ Afterwards at Manchester, &c. Noah son of Nicholas Cudworth, minister at Holcombe, was baptized at Bury, 22 Mar. 1645-6.

⁴⁹ *Bury Classis* (Chet. Soc.), 28, &c. He was very soon in trouble, being accused of frequenting the ale-house on Sabbath days and fast-days, playing at bowls, breaking forth 'into much rage and unseemly expressions,' &c.; *ibid.* 77, 82-5, 87. He signed the 'Harmonious Consent' as minister of Holcombe in 1648, but seems to have left soon after, and became minister of Haslingden; *ibid.* 227, 228.

⁵⁰ *Ibid.* 128. He became one of the foremost Nonconformists of the time. He was born at Jowkin in Bamford (Bury) in 1626, educated at Christ's College, Cambridge; became a minister in 1650 at Horwich, removing to Holcombe in 1652; was ejected in 1662, but continued to minister in the neighbourhood until his death in 1695. He was interred in Bury churchyard on 20 June 1695, a multitude of people attending and making 'great lamentation over him'; Nightingale, *Lancs. Nonconformity*, iii, 154; *Manch. Guardian N. and Q.* no. 570, 602, 728; W. Hewitson in *Heywood N. and Q.* notes 318, 320, containing much new matter. He wrote a number of sermons and tracts, the principal of which is a *Plain Representation of Transubstantiation*, 1687.

⁵¹ He was there from about 1667 till 1691 (or later), as appears from Stratford's Visitation List. In 1671 he wrote that he had been promised 30s. a year by Edward Kenyon, rector of Prestwich (died 1668), as stipend for his service at the chapels of Edenfield and Holcombe; *Hist. MSS. Com. Rep.* xiv, App. iv, 87. He is perhaps the John Warburton son of Francis Warburton of Stubbins who entered St. John's College, Cambridge, in 1639, and took the M.A. degree in 1664; *Admissions to St. John's Col.* i, 44.

- oc. 1717 C. Barrett⁵⁵
 1722 Thomas Ryder⁵⁵
 1725 John Boardman
 1738 John Lowe, B.A.
 1757 William Harrison
 1760 Richard Thickstone
 1764 John Smith⁵⁵
 1810 William Holt,⁵⁶ M.A. (Brasenose Coll. Oxf.)
 1849 George Nightingale,⁵⁷ M.A. (St. Cath. Coll. Camb.)
 1875 Henry Dowsett⁵⁸
 1905 George Lawson Merchant, M.A. (Worcester Coll. Oxf.)

There was a chapel at *EDENFIELD*⁵⁹ as early as 1541;⁶⁰ this was perhaps the building described in 1546 as built by the tenants upon a piece of the king's waste, in which their chaplain celebrated daily for the souls of all the faithful departed.⁶¹ An inquiry was made about it in 1552,⁶² and it appears to have been sold to William Kenyon, who next year was in possession.⁶³ Possibly it was recovered or a new one was built, for the tradition in Bishop Gastrell's time was that the then-existing chapel had been consecrated in the time of Elizabeth.⁶⁴ In the next century it, like Holcombe, was kept up by the inhabitants, without endowment.⁶⁵ In 1634 it had a separate curate,⁶⁶ but was vacant in 1650,⁶⁷ and was usually served by the curate of Holcombe⁶⁸ down to the beginning of last century; down to 1733 service was held there once a month only, but afterwards on alternate Sundays.⁶⁹ It was rebuilt in 1778. No dedication is known. A separate district was assigned to it in 1865.⁷⁰ The rector of Bury is patron.

The curates and vicars since Edenfield became separate from Holcombe have been:—

- 1842 Matthew Wilson⁷¹
 1870 James Pearse Yeo⁷²
 1902 Alfred Dinley Studdy Studdy, B.A. (Lond.)

⁵⁵ Gastrell, *Notitia*, ii, 36.

⁵⁶ The Church Papers at Chester begin here.

⁵⁷ There is a memorial tablet in the church. A number of his memoranda are printed in *Holcombe Long Ago*. A list of his goods, including his gown, cassock, and bands, and 71 books, is given on p. 14. He valued his sermons at £20. One of these, on the Arians, appears to have been printed.

⁵⁸ There is a memorial brass in the church.

⁵⁹ There is a memorial brass to him.

⁶⁰ Mr. Dowsett resigned in 1905; he is the author of *Notes on Holcombe* (1901) and *Holcombe Long Ago* (1902), which have been freely quoted in this account of the chapel and township.

⁶¹ The older spellings were Aytonfield or Etonfield.

⁶² In the Tottington Court Roll of 1542 it is recorded that Elizabeth Crabtree made an assault on Margaret Henryson and John Hey within Edenfield Chapel on 8 Sept. 1541. Again in 1543 John Shippelbottom was fined for having at the time of vespers at Edenfield Chapel beaten Thurstan Booth, to the disturbance of divine service in the chapel, and to the danger of Thurstan's life had not the people present given him assistance.

⁶³ Ct. R. of 22 May, 38 Hen. VIII; the land measured a rood and a half.

⁶⁴ *Ducatus Lanc.* (Rec. Com.), ii, 119. There was only one set of vestments remaining at that time; *Cb. Gds.* 46. The 'stock' was sold for 40s.; Raines, *Chant*, ii, 273. Hugh Birtwistle was curate of Edenfield in 1554 and 1563; he did not appear in 1565; Visitation lists.

⁶⁵ Ct. R. of Thursday before Pentecost, 7 Edw. VI; the land is called half an acre.

⁶⁶ *Notitia*, ut sup. 'Consecrated' may mean no more than 'licensed for service.'

⁶⁷ *Hist. MSS. Com. Rep.* xiv, App. iv, 12. William Kay of Edenfield was presented (about 1590) for having an ale and minstrels who played upon the Sabbath day; *ibid.* 582.

⁶⁸ See the note on Holcombe above.

⁶⁹ *Commonwealth Ch. Surv.* 44. Robert Hill had been minister in 1647, but was removed for misbehaviour; then one William Langley followed for a time (1648), but though a Puritan he set the Classis at defiance, and had to leave; see the notice of them in Shaw's *Bury Classis*, 233, 239-41. A Mr. Bridge was reproved for ministering without ordination in 1649-50; *ibid.* 216.

Edenfield was a separate parish for a brief period (1659-60); *Plund. Mins. Acct.* ii, 279. The Upper End of Tottington, with Shuttleworth, Cowpe, Lench, and Musbury were assigned to it.

⁷⁰ *Notitia*, ii, 33.

In recent times the following have been erected for the worship of the Established Church:—St. Anne's, Tottington, in 1799—patron, the rector of Bury;⁷³ St. Paul's, Ramsbottom, 1850, rebuilt 1864⁷⁴—patron, the Crown and the Bishop of Manchester, alternately; and St. Andrew's, in the same town, 1875—patron, Sir John Grant Lawson;⁷⁵ St. Mary's, Hawkshaw Lane, 1892—patron, the Bishop of Manchester.

St. John's Free Church of England, Tottington, was built in 1867-8.

The Wesleyans have a church at Tottington built in 1820 and rebuilt in 1904; others at Walshaw, at Hawkshaw Lane, at Ramsbottom, built in 1873, and at Edenfield, built in 1832 and rebuilt in 1879. The Primitive Methodists have churches at Ramsbottom and Edenfield, built in 1889 and 1881 respectively. The United Methodist Church is represented at Ramsbottom, Holcombe Brook, and Hawkshaw Lane.

The Baptists have a church at Ramsbottom, built in 1851; the Particular Baptists also have one there.

Protestant Nonconformity since 1662 is represented by the chapel at Dundee. Henry Pendlebury, on being expelled from Holcombe, continued to minister in the district, principally at Bast House, on the other side of the Irwell. His successor, Edward Rothwell of Tunley, moved to Holcombe, and in 1712 there built a chapel within a stone's throw of the old chapel. Another chapel, still in use, was built nearer Ramsbottom. The English Presbyterians and Independents continued to occupy it until 1813, when it was acquired by the Scottish Presbyterians, who still retain it.⁷⁶ In 1832 a new church, St. Andrew's, now belonging to the English Establishment, was built for the congregation, but closed to them in 1869; they returned to the old chapel for a time, but in 1873 the new church of St. Andrew was built for them; it is connected with the Presbyterian Church of England.⁷⁷

⁶⁹ *Holcombe Long Ago*, 85; two sermons were about 1767 preached on Sundays, and the Sacrament was administered four times a year, Good Friday being one. In the same volume (p. 38) is a record of an ancient bequest of books to the chapel.

⁷⁰ *Lond. Gaz.* 8 Aug. 1865.

⁷¹ Died 13 Feb. 1870.

⁷² Died 29 Oct. 1901.

⁷³ A district was assigned to it in 1844; *Lond. Gaz.* 23 Feb.

⁷⁴ The district was formed in 1844; *Lond. Gaz.* 3 June.

⁷⁵ The church was built in 1832 by William Grant as a Presbyterian church, and after being used for Anglican services for some time, was formally transferred to the Established Church in 1875. For the district assigned to it, see *Lond. Gaz.* 15 Feb. 1876.

⁷⁶ Nightingale, *Lancs. Nonconf.* iii, 154-67. Bank Street Chapel, Bury, now Unitarian, and Park Chapel, Walmersley, are old offshoots of Holcombe.

⁷⁷ The story is also told in Barton, *Bury*, 213-20. It appears that Peter Ramsay, the minister in 1813, offended the Grant family by his personalities and was forcibly ejected. After various changes Dr. Andrew MacLean came as pastor in 1829, and was so popular that St. Andrew's was built for him by the Grants, who also maintained it. In 1869, Dr. MacLean

A HISTORY OF LANCASHIRE

The Congregationalists, who thus lost Dundee Chapel, have a new church there and one at Stubbins, built in 1866-7; also one at Green Mount, with a lofty tower and spire, built in 1866. The last-named has a mission chapel at Affetside.⁷⁸

The Swedenborgians erected a church at Ramsbottom in 1831; this was replaced by another in 1876.

The Roman Catholic Church of St. Joseph, Ramsbottom, was built in 1879, replacing one opened in 1862; the chapel of the Home for Orphans at Tottington is also available for the public.

MUSBURY

Musbury, 1329.

This township, which lies in the hundred of Blackburn, has three portions called Musbury Park, 904½ acres, Musden Head, 398½ acres, and the Trippet of Ogden, 410½ acres; the total area is nearly 1,713 acres. The northern boundary is formed by Ogden Brook, flowing east and south-east to join the Irwell. From the west and south two spurs of the hills project into the township, called Musbury Heights, 1,268 ft., and Burnt Hill and Tor Hill. The valley on the northernmost slope is called Ogden, that between the spurs Musbury, the head of it being called Musden Head, and that on the south Alden. Musbury Park is on the southern spur.

The principal road is that from Bury to Accrington, from which another to Blackburn branches off. The Lancashire and Yorkshire Company's railway from Bury to Accrington crosses the eastern corner.

There are several mills beside the Ogden and Alden, and some quarries on the hills. The Ogden Valley contains two reservoirs of the Bury Waterworks.

Musbury has ceased to be a township since 1894, when the borough of Haslingden was made a civil parish.¹

being infirm and incapable, the representative of the family, a member of the Established Church, gave him notice to go and offered a retiring pension, being assured that the building was legally his own property.

⁷⁸ The church at Stubbins was an offshoot from Park in 1861; that at Dundee is the result of a dispute among the teachers and scholars at the old Dundee School; it was built in 1885; Nightingale, *op. cit.* iii, 238. The church at Green Mount owes its beginnings to the arbitrary dismissal of the Sunday-school superintendent at St. Anne's Church, Tottington. A school-chapel was built in 1848, and a church formed about nine years later; *ibid.* iii, 211-15, 239.

¹ Local Govt. Bd. Order 32291.

² Chart. R. 87 (22 Edw. I), m. 11, no. 23.

³ By a comparison of the *De Lacy Compoti* (Chet. Soc.) of 1295-6 and 1304-5, the 'newly made park' is seen to have been formed about that time; pp. 5, 100-1. The accounts for the park palings are given; *ibid.* 98, 115. 'The whole land of Musbury' had been granted to John de Lacy (before 1241) by Lewis de Bernavill; Whitaker, *Whalley* (ed. Nicholls), i, 316. Henry de Lacy in 1307 granted to Adam son of Adam de Holden part of the waste in Tottington adjoining Musbury Park, at a rent of 5s.; *ibid.* 191,

quoting Raines MSS. (Chet. Lib.), xiv, 54. The park, with its herbage and agistments, was said to be worth 13s. 4d. in 1311; *De Lacy Inq.* (Chet. Soc.), 19.

Trespasses in Queen Isabel's park of Musbury are recorded in 1329 and 1330; *Cal. Pat.* 1327-30, pp. 435, 566. In 1334 Adam son of William de Radcliffe and many others, including the rector of Bury, broke and entered the park and took and carried away venison; *Coram Rege*. R. 302, Rex, m. 6d. William de Tonge was parker in 1346; *Cal. Close*, 1346-9, p. 50.

⁴ In 1485 the king leased the herbage and pannage of his park of Musbury to Lawrence Maderer; *Duchy of Lanc. Misc. Bks.* 21, fol. 9, A/54. Notes of other leases and the following list of parkers are given in Whitaker, *Whalley*, *loc. sup. cit.*—Nicholas Brownlow, 1413; John Barlow; John Kay, 1463; Lawrence Maderer.

The Trippet (Trippet) of Ogden or Udden was the subject of several disputes in the time of Elizabeth. It was stated to be within the manor of Accrington; *Ducatus Lanc.* (Rec. Com.), ii, 385; iii, 56, 78.

⁵ From the *Compoti* above referred to it is clear that Musbury was within the manor of Tottington in 1305. The references in Queen Isabel's time are vague, but suggest that it had become indepen-

A licence for free warren in Tottington PARK was granted to the Earl of Lincoln in 1294,⁸

and the park at Musbury appears to have been formed shortly afterwards.³ There is little to be noted of this district,⁴ nor does there seem to be any record of the manner in which it became attached to the hundred of Blackburn. Possibly as being a park it was included in the Forest of Rossendale.⁵

The only places of worship in the township are Sion Chapel and another Methodist chapel.

COWPE, LENCH, NEWHALL HEY, HALL CARR

Couhope, 1325.

Lenches (xvii cent.).

This crescent-shaped township occupies the northern slope of the ridge which divides the hundreds of Blackburn and Salford, being included in the former, though the manor and parish to which it belongs are in the latter. The northern boundary is formed by the Irwell and a tributary stream. Cowpe forms the eastern corner with the hamlet of Boarsgreave; Lench lies on the north-eastern slope of the hill, opposite Newchurch in Rossendale; Newhall Hey⁶ and Hall Carr occupy the western slope, in which lie the hamlets of Townsend Fold, Wood Top, and Longholme. The area of the township is 1,499 acres, composed as follows:—Cowpe 569½, Lench 396, Newhall Hey and Hall Carr 533½.

The principal and practically the only road is that from Bury to Rawtenstall and Bacup, which runs near the Irwell on the north-western side of the township. Near it runs the Bury and Bacup branch of the Lancashire and Yorkshire Railway.

There are numerous quarries on the hills, while cotton-mills line the banks of the Irwell.

Horse-races formerly took place near Cowpe.⁷

dent, though perhaps not included in Rossendale.

There are references to Musbury among the inquests of the Forest of Rossendale in the court rolls of the manor of Accrington preserved at Clitheroe Castle and the Public Record Office.

For instance, in 1518 the greave of Rossendale surrendered a corn-mill in Oakenhead Wood, with its water-course and the soke of all the tenants and inhabitants in Rossendale, Musbury, and New hall Hey; see also the roll of 1514.

In 1538 Richard Duckworth of Musbury was found to have died holding a house and land; John Duckworth was his son and heir (see also *Ducatus Lanc.* (Rec. Com.), ii, 317).

A messuage and lands in Musbury Park in the Forest of Rossendale were in 1546 surrendered to the use of Lawrence son of Lawrence Taylor; the fine, 32s. 6d., was the same as the annual rent, and this seems to have been the rule in such transfers.

Alexander Entwisle of Edgeworth held two messuages in Musbury in 1603; *Duchy of Lanc. Inq.* p.m. xviii, no. 13.

⁶ The place so called lies on the north bank of the Irwell, outside the township and parish.

⁷ Baines, *Lancs.* (ed. 1836), ii, 674.

A catastrophe known as Cowpe Flood occurred in 1838, due, it is said, to a 'cloudburst' on the hill at the head of Cowpe Valley.⁸

The township has now ceased to exist, being part of the borough of Rawtenstall, which was made a civil parish in 1894.⁹

There is practically nothing to record of this township. It may have become attached to the hundred

of Blackburn through its proximity to the Forest of Rossendale, in which it was long included.¹⁰

In connexion with the Established Church, St. James's, Waterfoot, was opened by licence in 1863 and consecrated in 1865.

A small building, said to have been a pre-Reformation chapel, formerly stood at Rough Lee in Lench.¹¹

MIDDLETON

MIDDLETON
PILSWORTH
HOPWOOD

THORNHAM
BIRTLE-WITH-BAMFORD
ASHWORTH

AINSWORTH
GREAT LEVER

This parish, originally a single manor, comprises 12,101 acres, and in addition to the central portion—Middleton proper, with Pilsworth, Hopwood, and Thornham—has a number of outlying portions, some distant several miles from the parish church. Great Lever, one of these detached parts, though like the others a 'hamlet' of Middleton, appears to have had an independent history, and was perhaps early added to Middleton to compensate for the loss of Radcliffe. The history of the parish is that of the lords of the manor until recent times, when coal-mining and manufactures have caused great changes. Formerly a large part of the area was moorland, and considerable portions are still used as pasture lands.

The 'hamlets' appear to have become 'townships' in the 18th century.¹

In 1624 the parish was assessed to the county lay as a single township, paying £5 16s. when Salford Hundred contributed £100.² In consequence of disputes, the proportions to be borne by the several hamlets had been agreed upon in 1590.³ To the fifteenth Middleton contributed £2 out of £41 14s. 4d. paid by the hundred.⁴

Several distinguished men have sprung from the parish—Cardinal Langley, William Holt the Jesuit, Thomas Jones, Archbishop of Dublin, Ralph Assheton the Parliamentary leader in the county; William

Assheton and Charles Burton,⁵ divines; and Samuel Bamford. Sir Ralph Assheton, who acquired the manor with his wife, may also be mentioned, as also his descendant, Sir Richard, who fought at Flodden. In religious and political matters the people seem to have gone with the times, embracing Protestantism without reluctance and siding with the Parliament in the Civil War, though the lord of Ashworth and one of his tenants suffered for taking the other side. In more recent times the people became strongly Radical, as in other places where there was a large manufacturing population. Luddite riots occurred in 1812. Middleton gives a name to one of the parliamentary divisions of the county.

The following is the apportionment of agricultural land in the parish: Arable land, 1,394 acres; permanent grass, 5,060; woods and plantations, 142. The details are given thus:—

	Arable acres	Grass acres	Woods, &c. acres
Middleton	99	54	—
Middleton	604	777	—
Middleton	506	909	50
Birtle-with-Bamford	28	1,164	62
Ashworth	17	815	28
Great Lever. . . .	—	321	—
Ainsworth	140	1,020	2

⁸ Newbigging, *Forest of Rossendale*, 317.

⁹ Local Govt. Bd. Order 32291.

¹⁰ The following are among the references to the township in the inquests of the Forest of Rossendale included in the court rolls of the manor of Accrington, preserved in the Public Record Office and at Clitheroe Castle.

John Nuttall of Newhall Hey in 1539 claimed 10s. damages against Nicholas Ramsbottom for encroachment and wrongful inclosure of a parcel of land at Newhall Hey; and the jury set out merestones according to which the defendant was in future to occupy. The parties made an agreement in the following year regarding fences between Hall Carr and Newhall Hey.

The greave of Rossendale surrendered in 1539 a messuage and appurtenances in Cowpe Close, given him by James Pecopp, to the use of John and Peter Pecopp. In 1564 Charles son of Richard Nuttall, Richard son of Richard Rawstorne of Lumb, John son of John Bridge, and George Nuttall of Gollinrod, at the re-

quest of Charles Nuttall of Aveley in Essex, son and heir of Charles Nuttall, late of Crow Lumb, deceased, surrendered a messuage, &c., in Cowpe, rented at 21s. 3d., in the occupation of Robert Nuttall and Ralph his son, to the use of Christopher Nuttall of Newhall Hey and other feoffees for the following purposes:—To the use of the above Robert Nuttall of Cowpe for thirty-three years, paying 9s. 1d. to Elizabeth Rawstorne, and after her death to Richard son of Giles Nuttall and his heirs; at the end of the term a moiety or 'half dole' was to be held for the above Ralph Nuttall and the other moiety for Richard son of Giles, but Ralph was to pay Richard £21 in three instalments in Edenfield Chapel. The fine upon admittance was 21s. 3d.—the same as the rent.

In 1532 the jury, in deciding on a complaint as to the obstruction of a road from the Lench to Deadwin Clough, awarded the plaintiff a sufficient road from 'Le Lenche Yait' to his house, and also ordered that a 'middyng sted' upon the

said king's highway should be removed. John Nuttall in 1539 complained that his brother Ralph had trespassed by making a path on his land at the Lench and Marled Earth, and defendant was directed to use instead a road from the Lench to the Carr meadow head. There was another dispute between the brothers in 1541. A messuage in the Lench was in 1545 surrendered to the use of Vane or Evan son of John Schofield; the fine, 21s. 8d., was the same as the rent of the tenement, and this appears to have been the rule.

¹¹ Newbigging, *Rossendale*, 111. The statement that 'a large stone pulpit was demolished when the building was converted to its present use'—two cottages—throws doubt upon the story.

¹ Bishop Gastrell, *Notitia*, ii, 99, has 'hamlets' in the text and 'towns' in the margin.

² Gregson, *Fragments* (ed. Harland), 22.

³ *Hist. MSS. Com. Rep.* xiv, App. iv, 574.

⁴ Gregson, *op. cit.* 18.

⁵ *Dict. Nat. Biog.*

**INDEX MAP
TO THE
PARISH
OF
MIDDLETON**

The map shows the following areas and features:

- ASHWORTH** (Northwest)
- BIRTLÉ AND BAMFORD** (West of Ashworth)
- BIRTLÉ** (Within Birtle and Bamford)
- BAMFORD CASTLE** (Within Birtle and Bamford)
- AINSWORTH** (Southwest)
- COCKLEY** (Within Ainsworth)
- GREAT LEVER** (Far Southwest)
- BURNAGE** (Within Great Lever)
- PILSLOW** (Central)
- HOPWOOD** (Northeast of Pilslow)
- GOODEN** (Between Hopwood and Pilslow)
- THORNHAM** (North)
- MIDDLETON** (East of Pilslow)
- STONY CLEFT** (Between Thornham and Middleton)
- BOATSHAY** (East of Stony Cleft)
- PRESTWICH** (Far East)

The Lower Coal Measures or Gannister Beds underlie the greater part of the parish, but a broad belt of the Coal Measures occurs from Heywood to Middleton, overlying the greater part of the townships of Middleton and Hopwood, whilst other areas are found at Bamford and over the eastern half of the township of Thornham.

The church of *ST. LEONARD*⁶ stands *CHURCH* in a commanding position on the north side of the town, on high ground overlooking the valley of the Irk. It consists of chancel, with north and south chapels and south vestry, nave with north and south aisles, south porch and west tower. There is no structural division between the nave and chancel, the nave taking up the first five bays from the west, and the quire seats occupying the sixth. The sixth bay is inclosed by screens on the north and south, and a line of screens runs across the church on its west side. The east part of the chancel projects 16 ft. 6 in. in front of the line of the chapels and is lighted by a modern window of five lights, and by north and south windows of three and two lights respectively.

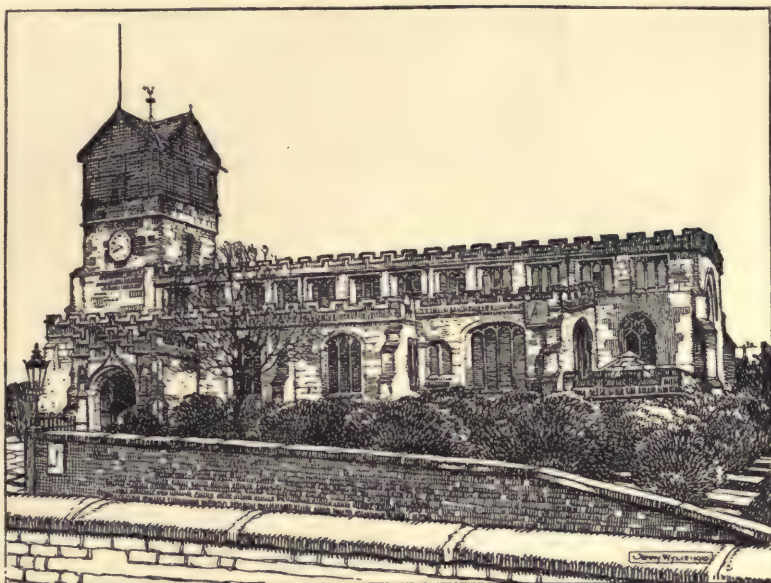
The greater part of the church was rebuilt in the 16th century, but there are remains of much older work, and the tower dates from the beginning of the 15th century. The earliest part is the tower arch, which is built up of 12th-century masonry belonging to a former building. Other fragments of 12th-century masonry have also been used up in the later rebuilding. Of the extent of the 12th-century church no evidence remains, but its nave was most likely about 40 ft. long by 18 ft. wide, covering approximately the space occupied by the three western bays of the nave before its extension northward.

This church appears to have stood till the beginning of the 15th century, when Thomas Langley, Bishop of Durham, pulled it down and built an entirely new structure 'of well hewn stone, with a roof of wondrous beauty.'

The new building was consecrated 22 August 1412, but the only part of it which can with any certainty be said to remain is the tower. The extent of Langley's church can only be surmised, but he seems to have retained the width of the 12th-century nave, lengthening it eastward and adding, or perhaps only rebuilding, the north and south aisles. Its plan is, however, only a matter of conjecture; it may be

suggested that the nave was of about the length of the four existing western bays, and that the chancel was continued some 30 ft. eastward. The door now called Langley's door at the south-east end of the south aisle appears to be of older date than the rest of that part of the building, but it is very doubtful whether it is in its original position.

Langley's work seems to have stood little more than a hundred years, for the greater part of the present building dates from 1524, when Richard Assheton reconstructed it, setting up the present nave arcades and clearstories, and the north and south aisles. The line of Langley's south arcade was retained, and the south aisle widened to its present extent; but the north arcade was pushed 5 ft. to the north, giving a nave 24 ft. 6 in. in width, and throwing the tower out of the centre.⁶ The chancel now assumed its present shape, though its north wall was probably solid, being pierced with an arch at a later date, when the so-called rector's chapel (now the organ chamber) was



MIDDLETON CHURCH

built. The Assheton Chapel on the south side was founded at this time, though the fact that its east wall does not bond with that of the chancel suggests its having been an addition, or that this wall was rebuilt at a later time. The north chapel, by the evidence of its windows, as well as of the straight joint in the pier north of the chapel, which was evidently originally a respond, appears to be of later date than the north aisle, probably of the first half of the 17th century. To a later date than 1524, too, must be assigned the south-east vestry, which is below the level of the floor of the church, probably to avoid blocking the windows of the chancel and south chapel. The vestry walls,

⁶ About 1240 Robert son of Roger de Middleton released to his aunt Helewise a 'land' called Henginde Chader (Hanging Chadder in Thornham) given her by her brother, his father, in free marriage, to hold in free alms of the parsons serving God in the church of St. Leonard of Middleton, rendering 4*l.* yearly on the altar of St. Leonard. The bounds included Blacklache (between Thornham

and Hanging Chadder), Lostebooth Clough, Creswall Syke, Fahhanesgreave, Lamilache, the great highway by Bolterstan (Balderston) towards Crompton, the head of Great Hathershaw and Hathershaw Brook, Saltergate (between Berdes-hul and Bolterstancroft), and Little Hathershaw Brook. The land had been 'bounded to God and the church of B. Leonard,' free and quit of Robert and his

heirs, for his own welfare and that of his wife and children, in free alms, nothing being required except prayers and psalms; Hopwood D.

⁷ 'Quae tam in opere lapideo, quam in tectura arte mirifica et perpolitte vestris sumptibus de novo totaliter constructa est'; Licence of bishop for Langley's church.

⁸ Compare for this process Eccles Church, Manchester Cathedral, &c.

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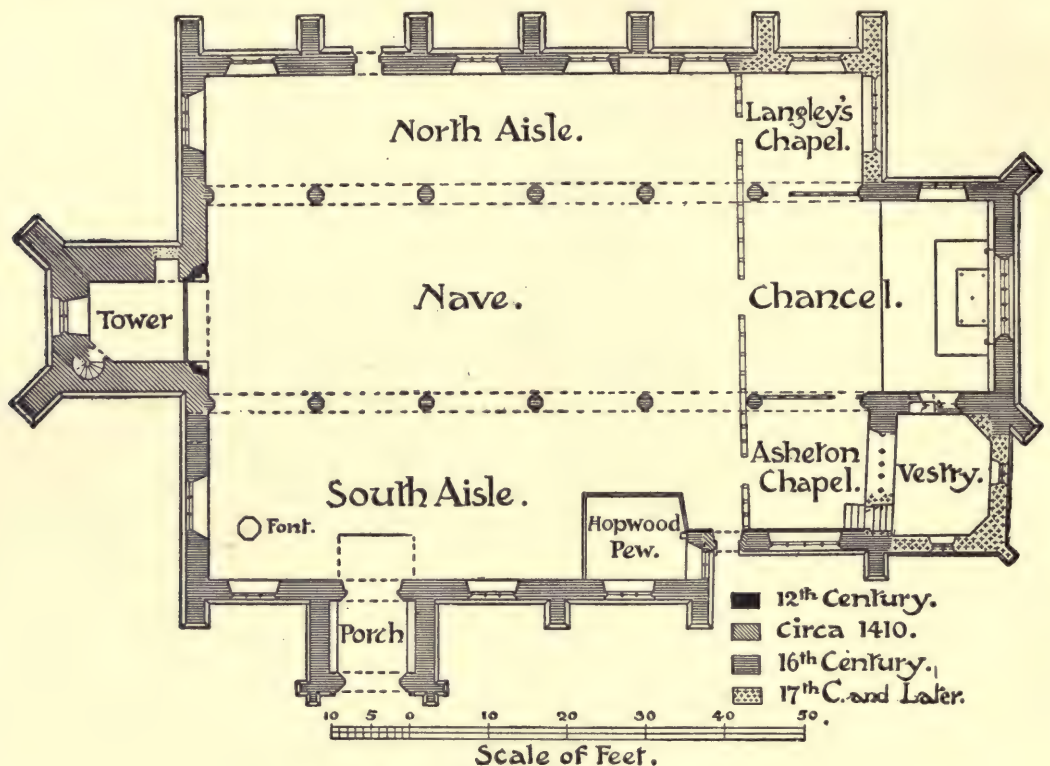
for which the ground had apparently to be lowered, are not bonded with those of the main building, and though their exterior detail is similar to that of the north aisle, they seem to be later work.

West and side galleries were erected at the end of the 18th century,⁹ that on the south side being carried over the Assheton Chapel, but these were taken down in the restoration of 1868, when the church was reseated and a doorway, which formerly existed in the north wall of the tower, was built up.¹⁰

There were extensive alterations and restorations in 1846-7 and 1868-9.

The walls of the building are constructed of rather rough masonry, except those of the tower, which still retain the more finely wrought work of Langley's time. The walls of both aisles and clearstories are embattled, and the roofs are covered with lead. The aisles have lean-to roofs, those of the north being of

present five-light window substituted for a late window of seven lights with transoms, but no tracery. The window on the north has three trefoiled lights under a three-centred arch, and is the original 16th-century one; that on the south side, which contains the 'Flodden' glass, is of two lights, and belongs to 1847. A doorway on the south side to the vestry was blocked up in 1872, and the entrance removed to the east end of the Assheton Chapel. The west half of the chancel has an arch north and south to the two chapels, that on the north, as already mentioned, being apparently a later extension eastward when the chapel was built or reconstructed. The north chapel is now used as an organ chamber, but was formerly known as the Rector's or Langley's Chapel, presumably from the fact that the altar of the Virgin and St. Cuthbert, endowed by Langley, was on this side of the nave. There is nothing to show, however,



PLAN OF MIDDLETON CHURCH

flatter pitch than the south, and the external detail of the north side of the building is generally plainer and poorer than that of the south, which has an elaborately panelled and moulded embattled parapet to the aisle. On the middle of the parapet of the south aisle is the inscription: *RIC. ASSHETON et ANNA ux. ei. anno d'ni M^o V^o XXIII.* and at its east end are two stones with inscriptions, the upper one of which is uncertain, and the lower has the initials ^{SBB}STD.

The chancel, 24 ft. 6 in. by 30 ft., preserves none of its ancient ritual arrangements. The east wall above the window sill was rebuilt in 1847, and the

that a separate chapel existed on the present site before the existing one was erected. The east window is of five and the north window of four uncusped lights under three-centred heads. The windows to the Assheton Chapel have a similar number of uncusped lights, that on the south being under a segmental head, while the two-light window at the east end of the south aisle, together with the window over the 'Langley door,' are of similar plain detail. All the other windows to the north and south aisles have four-centred arched heads and cusped lights. There is a descent of seven steps from the Assheton Chapel to the south-east vestry, and the oak door is probably

⁹ North and south galleries, 1792.

¹⁰ Glynn mentions 'a frightful tawdry pew belonging to Lord Suffield' in

the south gallery; *Lancs. Churches* (Chet. Soc.), 97. This was in the fourth bay from the west, but Lord Suffield's gallery extended

over the rest of the south aisle eastward. A brief description of the building about 1795 is in Aikin's *Country round Manch.* 243.

the original one brought from its old position on the south side of the chancel. There is what appears to be the remains of a piscina at the east end of the south wall of the Assheton Chapel under the window, about 3 ft. 3 in. from the floor. The vestry is lighted by a two-light window on its east and south sides, and a recess in the north wall shows the position of the original doorway.

The nave is 24 ft. 6 in. by 70 ft. in length, and has an arcade of five bays with octagonal piers and pointed arches of two plain chamfered orders. The capitals and bases are coarsely moulded, and the eastern arch on the north side has a line of 12th-century billet ornament in its outer order, a piece of detail from the former church. There is nothing to show why this particular arch should have been thus distinguished. The arcade is continued one bay eastward into the chancel, and the eastern pier on each side, between the chancel and the nave, has a cable-moulded necking which slightly distinguishes it from the others. The clearstory runs the whole length of nave and chancel, and has twelve uncusped three-light square-headed windows on each side. The roof to nave and chancel is of flat pitch with brackets carried down the wall resting on corbels between the clearstory windows, and is a modern restoration of the original oak roof of the 16th-century church. The weathering of a former roof remains in the east wall of the west tower, showing the centre line of Langley's nave. Above, on the south side, is a door which formerly led from the upper stage of the tower to the roof. The tower arch is pointed, but is constructed, as before stated, of 12th-century masonry, probably dating from about 1140. It is now of two orders, sitting rather awkwardly on the three shafts below, the inner order being plain, but the outer one made up of stones carved with cheverons with an outer ring of variously ornamented stones. The arch rests on three 12th-century shafts at either side with moulded capitals and bases, raised some height above the floor in the rebuilding. Of the six capitals five are of the scalloped type with cable-moulding under; the sixth is an ornamented variety of the cushion capital. The abaci are of different patterns, but the square billet ornament is much used.

The north aisle is 14 ft. wide, and has a narrow pointed door with moulded jambs and head and external label opposite the second bay from the west, with a three-light window to each of the other bays, and one at the west end which is entirely new, with three cinquefoiled lights under a pointed head. At the east end of the north wall, between the third and fourth windows from the west, is a recess in the wall 2 ft. 2 in. deep and 6 ft. 6 in. wide under a four-centred arched head 4 ft. high, and raised above the floor 13 in., containing a coffin slab with a foliated incised cross. Above the recess is the indent of a small brass of a hooded female with inscription under. There is nothing to indicate whom the brass commemorated or whether it has any connexion with the recess underneath, but the latter is popularly styled the 'founder's tomb,' and there is a tradition that the original north aisle was built by Maud Middleton early in the 14th century, and that she was buried under the north wall. It is possible that the incised slab marked her burial-place, and that in the rebuilding of 1524 the recess was made to contain it, and a brass

placed above to commemorate the lady whose remains it formerly covered.¹¹ There is also a plain corbel above the recess about 7 ft. from the floor.

The south aisle is 21 ft. 6 in. wide, but narrows to 15 ft. 6 in., the width of the Assheton Chapel, near its east end. It has three three-light windows in the south wall, in two of which the mullions have been renewed, and one at the west end. The east end of the wider part is occupied by the Hopwood Chapel or pew, which has a two-light window in the east wall, and is inclosed by a Jacobean oak screen with twisted balusters along the top. The pew is 10 ft. 6 in. by 12 ft. 6 in. and has four linen pattern panels inserted at its north-east corner. The walls on the east and south are likewise panelled, hiding a piscina at the south-east. There is a moulded bracket on the east wall 8 ft. from the floor. At the east end of the south aisle is the 'Langley door,' which has a square-shouldered lintel and a two-light window over. The door itself is ancient and nail-studded, and the masonry, as before stated, is older than that on either side of it, though the evidence of the head and jambs suggests that it has been moved. The east wall of the south aisle, however, does not bond with that containing the doorway, and it is just possible that the latter is part of the 15th-century church in its original position. It is to be noted that the south wall of the Assheton Chapel sets back 3 in. on the inside at a height of 6 ft. above the floor.

The south porch projects 11 ft. 6 in. in front of the aisle wall opposite the second bay from the west, and has a low pointed outer arch with ogee crocketed label over, flanked by canopied niches. Like the rest of the building it has an embattled parapet, and the whole of its south face has been elaborately panelled, though the detail is now much worn away and its beauty lost. Over the entrance are the initials ^A_{R A}, seeming to imply that it is the work of Richard and Ann Assheton. There are also two shields, one of which shows the Assheton molet, but the other is defaced. The porch is an open one with seats on each side, and the inner doorway has a four-centred moulded arch and retains its old nail-studded door with wicket and wooden draw-bar.

The tower is 10 ft. 6 in. square inside, and is of three stages with diagonal buttresses and a vice in the south-west corner. The west window of the ground story is of two cinquefoiled lights with tracery over, and above this is a window of two trefoiled lights with a quatrefoil in the head. The jambs of both are old, but the mullions and tracery have been renewed. The upper stage of the tower contains a clock with faces on the north, south, and west sides, above which is a string-course crowned with an embattled parapet. The north and south sides of the tower are plain, but there are slits to light the vice in the south-west corner on both faces. In 1709 a further story was added in the shape of a wooden belfry stage with a roof gabled on all four sides, giving a curious and not very attractive finish to the tower. The original outside oak boarding, having decayed, has been replaced by pitch pine.

The rood screen, though damaged in the 18th century and probably also by repairs in the early part of the 19th century (c. 1835-44), is a good example of 15th-century work. The whole was repaired in

¹¹ *Lancs. and Ches. Antiq. Soc.* xv, 173.

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1898, when the rood was set up over it. It has a wide central opening with double doors, and four openings on each side, with traceried heads, and above are modern canopies with richly carved cornice and cresting. The lower part is filled with panels with carved shields on which are displayed in bad heraldry the arms of the Asshetons and their alliances.¹² The screen formerly extended across the full width of the church, but the parts in front of the two chapels appear to have been demolished when the galleries were erected. These have now been replaced by modern screens in character with the older work. The screen between the chancel and the north chapel (organ chamber) is ancient, and has nine openings with traceried heads and a four-centred arched doorway at the west end with carved spandrels. The cornice is carved with the vine trail, but the cresting is broken and mutilated. The screen opposite, between the chancel and Assheton Chapel, is modern and very plain, but retains a little old work in a leaf-pattern cornice on the chancel side.

There are four old stalls at each side of the chancel door, the misericordes being very simply carved with leaves, and in the quire are six old bench-ends—three on each side, now used as ends to the quire stalls. Otherwise all the fittings, including the font, pulpit, and seating, are modern. The font is at the west end of the south aisle, and was plain till 1846, when it was carved as at present. There is an old oak alms-box at the east end of the north aisle.

There are several brasses to the Asshetons within the altar rails, the most interesting being that of Sir Ralph Assheton and his wife Margery (Barton) with seven sons and six daughters, and a shield of Assheton quartering Barton. There is no inscription, but the details point to a date at the end of the 15th century. Other brasses are those of Edmund Assheton, rector, 1522, Richard Assheton, 1618, and Ralph Assheton, 1650, the Parliamentary General (his monument was removed from the Assheton Chapel in 1889), his sister Alice and her three husbands.^{13a}

The east window of the Assheton Chapel contains some fragments of 16th-century glass in the outer lights, including a shield in the west light (1 and 4 now blank, probably Assheton; 2 and 3 Middleton quartering Barton); and in the south light a fragment with the heads of a bishop and a priest. The three middle lights have each three shields of modern glass with the arms of various families connected with Middleton Church.^{13b} There is a fragment of ancient glass in the middle window of the south aisle, but the most interesting glass in the church is that known as the Flodden window on the south side of the chancel. Up to 1846-7 this glass was in a three-light window in the north aisle, but was at that time removed to its present position, suffering a good deal in the process. 'It contains the figures of some of the principal persons of Middleton and neighbourhood who

accompanied Sir Richard Assheton to Flodden, and represents first himself and his lady in scarlet, in long garments, with an attendant squire in blue, his chaplain also in blue kneeling before an altar, and seventeen bowmen . . . also in blue with long hair, and the name of each man originally placed over each figure.'¹³ In many parts the window is little better than a patchwork of mutilated fragments. The figures of the archers are fairly recognizable, but Sir Richard and Lady Ann are so broken up and mixed with other parts that it is difficult to trace them.¹⁴ Most of the names can still be read, but some have become obliterated. The following can be read: Henricus Taylyer, Richard Kylw—, Hughe Chetham, James Gerrarde, John Pylkyngton, Philipe Werburton, William [Ste]le, John Scolefedo, Wylliam —, James Taylier, Roger Blomeley, Crystofer Smythe, Henry Whitaker, Robart Prestwyche, Richard Bexwicke. The archers stretch across the upper portion of the two lights, and Sir Richard and other figures are below. These no doubt were originally in a third light, but of the exact disposition of the parts there is unfortunately no record.¹⁵ In 1786 Philip de la Motte visited the church and made an engraving of part of the window,¹⁶ which has preserved the names of the archers and the dedicatory inscription as it was in the latter half of the 18th century. The inscription, which has since been transposed, is given thus: 'Orate pro bono statu Richardi Assheton et eorum qui hanc fenestra[m] fieri fecerunt quoru[m] no[m]ina et imagines ut supra ostenduntur anno dñi mcccccv.'¹⁷

There is an interesting description of this window in a poem called *Iter Lancastrense* written by the Rev. Richard James, of Corpus Christi College, Oxford, in 1636:—

Now go we to ye church of Middleton
To find out there summe glorye of our owne.
At charge of those good men, whoe went out far
In suite of our brave Ashton to the warre.
There stands a painted windowe, where I weene
The shoue of their departure may be seene:
The Lord and Ladye first in skarlett; then
One neere attending of ye chiefeest men;
Their garments long, his short and blew, behinde
The chaplaine of ye warfare you may finde
In robe of ye same colour, for to say
Before an altar praiers of ye daye
On bended knees; him follow neighbours bould
Whoe doe bent bowes on their left shoulders bould,
Their girdle sheaft with arrowes; as the squire
So are they all, court mantells in attire
Of blew; like Greeks in Trojan warre, their haire
In curles long dangling makes ye semblance faire
And sterne; each hath his name, and people tell
That on ye same lands now their children dwell
As yet so called.¹⁸

In 1869, during the restoration, a stone coffin containing human remains was found in the north side of the nave in the third bay from the west.¹⁹ Part of a stone altar slab was formerly preserved in the church, but has now disappeared.²⁰

¹² The original panels may have become defaced and been renewed at a later date by someone ignorant of heraldry. See a letter by Rev. E. F. Letts, quoted in Dean's *Historical Middleton*, 139, in which the matter is discussed at length.

^{13a} The brasses are drawn in J. L. Thornely's *Brasses of Lancs. and Ches.*

^{13b} These are all given in Dean's *Historical Middleton*, 134-5.

¹⁸ Corser, note in *Iter Lancastrense* (Chet. Soc. vii), 38.

¹⁴ Dean, *Hist. Middleton*, 99.

¹⁵ Full-size drawings of the principal figures were made by James Shaw in 1844-5, at the instance of John Pegge, before the removal of the window from the north aisle, and these are now in the Assheton Chapel.

¹⁶ Motte's original copper-plate, after it had been lost more than a century, was recovered in 1903.

¹⁷ The date is wrong if the window

really represents the Flodden archers, but it has been suggested that an x or xx has been left out, and that the window was glazed in 1515, or more likely in 1525, during the rebuilding of the church.

¹⁸ The poem was first published in 1845 by the Chetham Society, vol. vii. It is illustrated by coloured illustrations of the window from Shaw's drawings.

¹⁹ *Hist. Middleton*, 131.

²⁰ *Ibid.* 132.



MIDDLETON CHURCH : THE NAVE LOOKING EAST



MIDDLETON CHURCH : TOWER ARCH

In the Assheton Chapel are preserved a crested helmet, sword, banner, and three spurs, popularly associated with Sir Richard Assheton, the soldier of Flodden. The crest (boar's head) and banner were probably carried at the funeral of Sir Ralph Assheton in 1765, and afterwards deposited here. The banner was cleaned in 1895, and the arms of Assheton impaling Copley, together with the Ulster red hand, were disclosed, proving it to be not earlier than 1739. It is now inclosed between two sheets of glass.²¹

There is a ring of eight bells. Six were cast by Abraham Rudhall of Gloucester in 1714, and two were added in 1891, by Mears & Stainbank.²²

The plate is all modern, and consists of two chalices, a paten, and an almsdish of 1843, and a paten of 1842. There is also a silver-plated flagon. The ancient plate (seven pieces) was stolen from the vestry in 1784.

The registers begin in 1541,²³ and the churchwardens' accounts in 1647.²⁴

At the east end of the south aisle wall is a wooden sundial with the date 1788 and motto 'Lose no time.'

The churchyard is principally on the north and south sides of the building, with gates at the north-west and south-west. It is paved with gravestones laid flat. The modern graveyard or cemetery lies to the south of the church, separated from it by a road.

The following is a list of the rectors :—

Instituted.	Name	Patron	Cause of Vacancy
c. 1180 . . .	? Adam ²⁵	—	—
oc. 1202 . . .	? Thomas ²⁶	—	—
c. 1230 . . .	Peter ²⁵	—	—
— 1297 . . .	John de Middleton ²⁶	Roger de Middleton . . .	—
21 July 1328 .	Thomas de Newbold ²⁷	Agnes de Barton . . .	d. J. de Middleton
23 Dec. 1339 .	Richard de Downton ²⁸	Agnes de Middleton . . .	d. T. de Newbold
8 Oct. 1340 .	Robert de Radcliffe ²⁹	" . . .	d. R. de Downton
15 Oct. 1343 .	Richard de Beckingham ³⁰	" . . .	res. R. de Radcliffe
3 Dec. 1348 .	Richard de Blythe ³¹	—	exc. R. de Beckingham
19 Feb. 1350-1 .	Richard de Cudworth ³²	Bishop of Lichfield . . .	—

²¹ There was formerly a pair of spurs, but after the repairs of 1868-9 only one was left. The churchwardens thereupon acquired a new pair in place of the one lost, which accounts for the three at present shown; *Hist. Middleton*, 141.

²² The first bell has the inscription—'Peace and good neighbourhood, A.R. 1714'; the eighth—'There shall be upon the bells Holiness to the Lord, 1891.'

²³ Two volumes, including the entries from 1541 to 1729, have been printed by the Lancashire Parish Register Society. Many years are missing.

²⁴ The churchwardens' accounts have been transcribed by Mr. Giles Shaw.

²⁵ See the deeds quoted above. In 1246 it was reported that Peter Carite, having killed Robert de Heap, fled to the church of Middleton, and the sheriff's bailiffs took 20s. from him 'that he might attain to the king's peace'; Assize R. 404, m. 17 d.

²⁶ *Pope Nich. Tax.* (Rec. Com.), 249.

²⁷ *Inq. Non.* (Rec. Com.), 39.

²⁸ *Valor Eccl.* (Rec. Com.), v, 226. The glebe land brought in £5 14s. 8d.; tithes of lambs, &c., £5; and Easter offerings, £6 6s. To the Archdeacon of Chester 16s. 8d. was paid for synodals and procurations.

²⁹ *Commonw. Ch. Surv.* 23; other rents amounted to £4 5s., of which 9s. came from Oldham parish.

A terrier of 1663 describes the rectory house as having ten little bays, with barns, &c., and 60 acres of land; in the hall, as heirlooms, were two tables, a livery cupboard, two forms, and a ceiled bench. The glebe land let to tenants amounted to 133½ acres, customary measure; the boon labours consisted of leading curves, shearing in harvest, a hen, and a heriot at the death of a tenant or tenant's widow; Baines, *Lancs.* (ed. 1868), i, 471 n.

³⁰ *Notitia Centr.* (Chet. Soc.), ii, 96. There were five churchwardens, chosen by the rector and patron and serving for Middleton, Hopwood, Thornham, Pils-worth, and Birtle. The other hamlets or townships had chapels.

³¹ *Manch. Dioc. Dir.* Particulars of the revenue from an advertisement of 1861 are given in Baines, *Lancs.* (ed. 1868), i, 481.

³² E. Butterworth, *Middleton*, 29. The stained glass was removed to the church.

³³ Adam the clerk of Middleton attested the charter concerning Ashworth printed in *Lancs. Inq. p.m.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), iii, 449. It is possible that he was the rector.

³⁴ 'Thomas the Parson,' possibly of Middleton, occurs in a fine of 1202: *Final Conc.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.) i, 20. He may have been of Prestwich.

³⁵ He attested grants by Roger de

The patronage has always been an *ADVOWSON* appurtenance of the manor of Middleton. The church is mentioned early in the 13th century.³⁵ In 1291 the value of the rectory was given as £13 6s. 8d.,³⁶ but fifty years later the ninth of sheaves, wool, &c., was worth only £4 8s. 10d., for which Middleton answered.³⁷ About 1534 the income was estimated at £37 os. 8d., to which the tithes of grain contributed £20.³⁸ The parsonage house and glebe were estimated as worth £40 a year in 1650, when the tithes and prescription rents amounted to £188 12s. 4d.; besides this Ralph Assheton, the squire and patron, had 300 acres of demesne lands on which he had never paid tithes.³⁹ Bishop Gastrell records that it was certified as worth about £250 a year, early in the 18th century.⁴⁰ The value is now £950.⁴¹

The former rectory was in 1840 described as 'a large and ancient structure, supported in part by buttresses; at a comparatively recent period it was surrounded by a moat with a drawbridge and a wooden bridge-house; part of the moat is perceptible, and in some walls loopholes for the discharge of arrows are visible. There was formerly much stained glass in the room called the Hall, and there is a very curious specimen of a carved oak screen.'⁴²

Middleton and Alan his son to the monks of Stanlaw; also the above-cited release by Robert son of Roger; see *Whalley Coucheur* (Chet. Soc.), ii, 620-21.

³⁶ Lich. Epis. Reg. i, fol. 8; the new rector, a clerk, was son of the patron. He died 2 June 1328.

In 1302 John, rector of Middleton, attested a Hopwood charter.

In 1306 he was charged with killing Henry son of Alexander Collop, and pleaded that as a clerk he could not plead without his ordinary. The jury found that he was 'in no wise guilty,' and he was freed; Assize R. 422, m. 3.

³⁷ Lich. Epis. Reg. ii, fol. 104; he was a chaplain. The patron is called widow of Sir John de Barton.

³⁸ Ibid. ii, fol. 113b; a clerk.

³⁹ Ibid. ii, fol. 114b; he was son of Robert de Radcliffe, and a clerk. He is named in *Cal. Close*, 1346-9, p. 50. The patron is described as widow of Roger de Middleton.

⁴⁰ Lich. Epis. Reg. ii, fol. 116b.

⁴¹ Ibid. ii, 122b; the new rector had been vicar of Blyth in the diocese of York. The priory of Blyth, which had the patronage of the vicarage, was then in the king's hands by reason of the war with France.

⁴² Ibid. ii, fol. 128; the Bishop collated, by lapse.

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Instituted	Name	Patron	Cause of Vacancy
3 June 1351	William de Langley ⁴³	Duke of Lancaster	res. R. de Cudworth
29 Aug. 1386	William de Preston ⁴⁴	Ralph de Barton	d. W. de Langley
16 June 1390	William de Ferriby ⁴⁵	Ralph de Barton	res. W. de Preston
3 Apr. 1395	Robert Collan ⁴⁶	Ralph de Barton	d. William
14 Apr. 1402	Robert de Hopwood ⁴⁷	The King	d. R. Collan
— 1462	John Barton ⁴⁸	Richard Barton	—
c. 1492	Mr. Edmund Ashton ⁴⁹	—	d. J. Barton
? 1522	Mr. John Claydon ⁵⁰	—	—
23 Feb. 1540-1	Robert Assheton ⁵¹	Edmund Hopwood	d. J. Claydon
— 1559	John Assheton ⁵²	—	res. R. Assheton
13 Jan. 1584-5	Edward Assheton ⁵³	Will. Assheton	d. J. Assheton
10 Oct. 1614			
24 July 1618	Abdie Assheton, B.D. ⁵⁴	Robt. Holt, &c.	d. E. Assheton
10 Jan. 1633-4	William Assheton ⁵⁵	Ralph Assheton	d. A. Assheton
— 1659	? Thomas Johnson, M.A. ⁵⁶	—	d. W. Assheton

⁴³ Lich. Epis. Reg. ii, fol. 128b; a clerk. Henry Duke of Lancaster presented for this turn by reason of the forfeiture of John de Ainsworth, possessor of the manor of Middleton. In 1366 and again in 1371 William de Langley had leave of absence for a year; *ibid.* v, fol. 13b, 24b. He is supposed to have been a member of the family of Langley (or Longley, as it was usually spelt) in Middleton, and nearly related to the Langleys who acquired Agecroft and Prestwich by marriage, acting as trustee for a settlement in 1352; *Final Conc.* ii, 132. He died 11 July 1386.

⁴⁴ Lich. Epis. Reg. vi, fol. 52; a chaplain. In June 1389 William de Preston, rector of Middleton, was empowered to nominate general attorneys during his absence beyond the limits of the Duchy of Lancaster; Towneley MS. CC, no. 342.

⁴⁵ Lich. Epis. Reg. (note by Mr. Earwaker). He is no doubt the 'Sir William, last rector,' who died at York 23 Mar. 1394-5, as appears by the institution of his successor.

To William de Ferriby, B. Can. L., Boniface IX granted in 1389 provision of a canonry of Lincoln, &c., notwithstanding that he held the parish church of Whiston in the diocese of York; *Cal. Papal Letters*, iv, 345. Four years later William Ferriby, priest, of the diocese of York, obtained a dispensation to hold two benefices with cure of souls; *ibid.* iv, 465.

⁴⁶ Lich. Epis. Reg. vi, fol. 59b; a priest. He died at Easter, 1402.

Robert Collan, chaplain, was a feoffee of the manor of Middleton in 1370; Dods. MSS. cxlii, fol. 130.

⁴⁷ Lich. Epis. Reg. vii, fol. 88; a clerk. The king presented on account of the minority of Richard son and heir of Ralph Barton. Hopwood was still rector in 1443 and 1448; *ibid.* ix, fol. 126; Kuerden fol. MS. 79 (C). According to Mr. Harland he was a son of Geoffrey de Hopwood, and occurs as rector down to 1457; Baines, *Lancs.* (ed. 1868), i, 479.

⁴⁸ Lich. Epis. Reg. xii, fol. 100; the bishop on 20 Mar. 1461-2 directed the Archdeacon of Chester to inquire as to the patronage of Middleton, 'a certain Richard Barton having presented Sir John Barton, priest.' For the reason of the inquiry see the account of the descent of the manor.

John Barton, rector of Middleton, was a feoffee of Thomas son and heir of James Chetham of Nuthurst, about 1480; Clowes D. He was rector in 1487; *ibid.* no. 139.

⁴⁹ In the *Examinations touching Cockey Moor* (Chet. Soc. Misc. i), about 1514, Oliver Isherwood, parish priest (or curate)

of Middleton for 37 years—fifteen under John Barton, and twenty-two under Edmund Ashton—describes how he and other 'good priests' sat at Radcliffe Church to hear the confessions of the people of Ainsworth during Lent, and minister to them the sacrament of the altar, the rector's deputy at the same time receiving the dues; p. 10.

Edmund Ashton was probably a son of Sir Ralph Ashton. He studied at Cambridge; *Grace Bk. A* (Luard Mem.), 119. His brass in the chancel, formerly in the rector's chapel, states that he died 20 Aug. 1522; Thornely's *Brasses*, 147; see also *Trans. Hist. Soc.* (new ser.), vi, 259.

⁵⁰ Rector in 1534; *Valor Eccl.* The contemporary John Clayden, who was fellow of Manchester, appears to have been a different person; Raines, *Fellowes of Mancb.* (Chet. Soc.), i, 39-41.

John Claydon or Clayden was also master of Attleborough College in 1524 and 1534; *L. and P. Hen. VIII*, iv, 57; *Valor Eccl.* (Rec. Com.), iii, 318. Also incumbent of 'Ratingdon,' diocese Lond., which was, in 1541, vacant by his death; *L. and P. Hen. VIII*, xvi, 331. His will is in P.C.C., F. 23 Alenger.

⁵¹ Lich. Epis. Reg. xiii-xiv, fol. 38; a chaplain. Sir John Byron and other feoffees of Sir Richard Assheton of Middleton had made a grant of the next presentation to Edmund Hopwood and Gervase Strickland; the latter having died, the former alone presented. Robert Assheton was also rector of Radcliffe from 1537. He is said to have died in 1563; Baines, *Lancs.* (ed. Croston), iii, 430.

⁵² Also rector of Radcliffe; paid first-fruits 29 Nov. 1559; *Lancs. and Ches. Rec.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), ii, 409, where are printed the payments of first-fruits down to 1659. He was buried at Middleton 9 Oct. 1584.

⁵³ Church P. at Chester Dioc. Reg. Edward Assheton paid first fruits 10 Nov. 1584. He was brother of the patron for that turn (William Assheton of Clegg in Rochdale), but owing to some informality was instituted a second time in 1614. In 1601 the rector and curate did not wear the surplice, and in 1605 the rector did not always do so; Visit. P. at Chester. He was buried at Middleton 8 July 1618. See the account of him by Canon Raines in *Chet. Misc.* (Chet. Soc.), v (1), 42-5; an abstract of his will is given. An Edward Ashton, B.A., of St. John's College, Cambridge, was incorporated at Oxford in 1572; *Foster's Alumni*.

⁵⁴ From this time the institutions have been taken from the Institution Books, P.R.O., as printed in *Lancs. and Ches.*

Antiq. Notes. The patrons for this turn were Robert Holt, John Greenhalgh, and Robert Heywood.

Abdie Assheton (son of John, a preceding rector) was baptized at Middleton 1 Nov. 1563 and buried there 13 Nov. 1633. He was elected fellow of St. John's College, Cambridge in 1589, and a life of Dr. Whitaker, master of the college, has been attributed to him; Baker, *Hist. of St. John's Coll.* (ed. Mayor), i, 291, 186. There is a long account of him by Canon Raines in the *Langley Autobiog.* (Chet. Misc. vi), 14-16; see also *N. and Q.* (5th ser.), xii, 436.

⁵⁵ Paid firstfruits on the same day. He was a brother of the patron.

In 1650 it was reported that he supplied the cure 'very weakly,' giving 'no satisfaction to his congregation'; he did not expound chapter or psalm or catechize the youth of the parish; *Commonw. Ch. Surv.* 23. He refused to take part in the Bury Classis. According to Adam Martindale (*Autobiog.* Chet. Soc. 59) he was 'an honest, humble man, considering his high birth, but accounted an exceeding mean preacher.' He was buried at Middleton 24 Sept. 1659. His epitaph describes him as 'eminent in learning, orthodox in judgment, singular in piety, and admirable for his patience, meekness, and all other Christian virtues.' See the biography in Shaw's *Bury Classis* (Chet. Soc.), ii, 209-11, where his will is printed in full.

His son William, baptized at Middleton 17 June 1642, entered Brasenose College in 1658, and became fellow in 1663; M.A. 1665; D.D. 1674. He held various ecclesiastical benefices, becoming rector of Beckenham in 1677; he was also a prebendary of York. He proposed an assurance scheme for the maintenance of clergymen's widows and others, and induced the Mercers' Company to take it up, but it failed. He was also the author of numerous publications, including *Toleration Disapproved and Condemned and Possibility of Apparitions*, a result of De Foe's story of Mrs. Veale's ghost. He died in 1711, and his *Life* was written by the Rev. T. Watts. See the account in Baines, *Lancs.* (ed. 1836), ii, 606-10; *Dict. Nat. Biog.*

⁵⁶ Previously rector of Halsall. The name is given from Baines, *Lancs.* (ed. Croston), iii, 403; in the account of the following rector it is stated that Robert Simmonds was 'elected by the people,' but refused by the Classis on account of many previous acts of insubordination; and that a Mr. Folgate was appointed, who before the Classis posed as a rigid Presbyterian, but in his parish as willing to adopt some of the forbidden ceremonies.

SALFORD HUNDRED

MIDDLETON

Institution	Name	Patron	Cause of Vacancy
8 Nov. 1662	Robert Simmonds ⁶⁷	Sir Ra. Assheton	—
15 June 1682	Richard Warburton, M.A. ⁶⁸	Sir Ra. Assheton	d. R. Simmonds
16 Sept. 1701	Henry Newcome, M.A. ⁶⁹	Sir Ra. Assheton	d. R. Warburton
26 Mar. 1714	Samuel Sidebottom, M.A. ⁶⁰	The Queen	d. H. Newcome
17 July 1752	Francis Pigot, M.A.	Sir Ra. Assheton	d. S. Sidebottom
26 July 1757	Richard Assheton, D.D. ⁶¹	Sir Ra. Assheton	d. F. Pigot
20 Jan. 1801	Robert Walker	Lord Suffield	d. R. Assheton
16 Mar. 1818	John Haughton, M.A.	"	d. R. Walker
30 Jan. 1829	James Archer ⁶²	"	d. J. Haughton
21 July 1832	Charles John Way, M.A. ⁶³	"	d. J. Archer
1 July 1835	Richard Durnford, M.A. ⁶⁴	"	res. C. J. Way
9 Aug. 1870	Waldegrave Brewster, M.A. ⁶⁵	The Crown	prom. Bp. Durnford
16 Oct. 1888	Thomas Ebenezer Cleworth, M.A. ⁶⁶	A. Butterworth	d. W. Brewster
2 July 1909	Robert Catterall	"	d. T. E. Cleworth

Before the Reformation the scattered parish was served by the rector, chantry priests, and some six or seven others.⁶⁷ The church appears to have been fairly well furnished, possessing an organ and 'regal.'⁶⁸ The visitation list of 1548, however, contains only five names beside the rector's, one of them being that of Thomas Mawdesley, who apparently remained there as schoolmaster, though decrepit, till his death. Two of the others reappear in 1554, with two more names; in 1562 there are still six names, but Mawdesley's is the only one of the old clergy; three years later the rector, newly appointed in 1559, was at Durham, his curate was in charge, and Mawdesley's and one other name appear.⁶⁹ After this time it is probable that the rector and one curate constituted the clerical staff, service being maintained at Cockey or Ainsworth Chapel, and perhaps at Ashworth also.⁷⁰ Bishop

Bridgeman about 1630 built a domestic chapel at Great Lever, which appears to have been used by the neighbouring people for a time.⁷¹ The Commonwealth surveyors of 1650 recommended a division of the parish and the building of new churches at Thornham and Pilsworth;⁷² but nothing seems to have been done, and it was not till recent times that any new districts were formed.

There was an endowed chantry in the church—that of St. Mary and St. Cuthbert, founded in the north or 'Rector's Chapel' by Thomas Langley, Cardinal-Bishop of Durham, for a priest to celebrate for the souls of the kings of England, the bishop and his family, and to keep a grammar school free for poor children. At the confiscation the incumbent was celebrating and teaching according to his foundation, the endowment amounting to £6 clear.⁷³ Another chantry chapel—that of St. Chad and St. Margaret, on

⁶⁷ 'A most excellent and extraordinary martyr' for the system established before the Civil War. He was buried at Middleton 27 Mar. 1682.

⁶⁸ Act Bks. at Chester. He was educated at Brasenose College, Oxford; M.A. 1669. Was elected fellow of Manchester Collegiate Church 2 May 1684; see Raines, *Fellows of Manch.* (Chet. Soc.), i, p. 193-5. It is stated that guardianship of his children was granted in 1698, and yet the fellowship and rectory were not filled up after his death till 1701. He and his curate were 'conformable' in 1689; *Hist. MSS. Com. Rep.* xiv, App. iv, 229.

⁶⁹ Eldest son of the respected Henry Newcome, founder of the Nonconformist congregation at Manchester. He was educated at Manchester Grammar School and St. Edmund Hall, Oxford; M.A. 1673; rector of Tattenhall in Cheshire 1675 to 1701; published *The Complete Mother*, 1695, and *Transubstantiation Discussed*, 1705; see *Pal. Note Bk.* iii, 91, 229. He was buried at Middleton 22 May 1713. His will is printed *ibid.* iv, 96.

⁶⁰ The queen presented by reason of the vacancy of the see of Chester. Educated at Brasenose College, Oxford; B.A. 1713; Foster, *Alumni*. Migrated to Cambridge, St. John's Coll.; M.A. 1718; Scott, *Admissions, St. John's C.* iii, 15. He died 22 May 1752. The Sidebottoms had an estate in Oldham.

⁶¹ Educated at Brasenose College, Oxford, of which he became fellow; M.A. 1751; D.D. 1782. He was presented to the rectory of Radcliffe in April 1757, but resigned it on being appointed to Middleton. In 1782 he was made warden of Manchester, and Middleton was left to the care of a curate. He was 'censured by

the inhabitants of Middleton for permitting the large old rectory-house and the living generally to fall into a dilapidated state, the gardens and grounds being neglected, on the idle (and probably false) supposition that he was the last of the Asshetons who was likely ever to hold the ancient family advowson, and that its preservation was therefore unimportant'; Raines, *Wardens of Manch.* (Chet. Soc.), 171-76. He died 6 June 1800, and was buried at Downham.

⁶² He had been curate of the church for fifty years.

⁶³ Educated at Trinity College, Cambridge; M.A. 1822; afterwards vicar of Boreham, near Chelmsford.

⁶⁴ Educated at Eton and Magdalen College, Oxford, of which he was successively Demy and Fellow; M.A. 1829; D.D. 1870. He was appointed honorary canon of Manchester, 1854; archdeacon, 1867; residentiary canon, 1868; Bishop of Chester, 1870. There is a biography of him (1899) by W. R. W. Stephens.

⁶⁵ Educated at Trinity College, Oxford; M.A. 1842. Rector of Llandysilio near Oswestry, previously to his appointment to Middleton. He had been curate of Hawarden for seventeen years, and is described as 'a High Churchman of the Wilberforce and Hook school'; see *Oldham Notes and Gleanings*, iii, 57-9.

⁶⁶ Educated at St. John's College, Cambridge; M.A. 1886. Vicar of St. Thomas's, Nottingham, 1884 to 1888. Hon. Canon of Manchester. He died 5 April 1909; see biographical notice in *Eagle*, xxx, 350.

⁶⁷ *Clergy List of 1541-2* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), 12. One of the assistant clergy was the rector's curate, two

others were paid by Sir Richard Assheton, and another by the widow of John Holcroft; three others are named, but their means of support are not recorded.

⁶⁸ *Ch. Goods*, 1552 (Chet. Soc.), 12.

⁶⁹ From the visitation lists at Chester.

⁷⁰ Only the Chapel at Cockey is named in a clergy list of about 1610; *Hist. MSS. Com. Rep.* xiv, App. iv, 12. In 1620 the rector of Middleton and the curate of Cockey paid to the clergy loan, and two years later the rector, lecturer at Middleton, and curate of Cockey again contributed; *Misc.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), i, 54, 66; also p. 95.

⁷¹ Note in Gastrell, *Notitia*, ii, 99.

⁷² *Commonw. Ch. Surv.* 24-25.

⁷³ Raines, *Lancs. Chantries* (Chet. Soc.), i, 119-25. Thomas Langley is thought by Canon Raines to have belonged to the Langleys of Middleton. He owed his early promotion to John of Gaunt, Duke of Lancaster. In the Church after minor benefices he became Dean of York in 1402, Bishop of Durham in 1406, and Cardinal in 1411; in the State he rose to be Lord Chancellor, 1405-7 and 1417-24. The chantry at Middleton was founded in 1412, in which year the cardinal visited the place to consecrate the parish church, which had been rebuilt at his expense. He died 20 Nov. 1437, and was buried at Durham. An abstract of his will is given by Raines.

The licence to endow a chantry at the altar of St. Thomas in honour of St. Mary and St. Cuthbert for a chaplain to celebrate daily for the soul of Thomas late Bishop of Durham was granted in May 1440; *Cal. Pat.* 1436-41, p. 399. In the same year Nicholas Hulme and other trustees granted to Thurstan Percival, chaplain of this chantry, an annual rent

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the south side of the chancel—had no endowment, but is supposed to have been built by the lords of the manor, who subsequently used it as their own.⁷⁴

The grammar school appears to have been coeval with the Langley chantry, 1412; it was continued after the Reformation, and re-endowed by an old pupil, Alexander Nowell, Dean of St. Paul's, in 1572.⁷⁵ The schoolhouse built after the re-endowment still stands, and is of the usual type, with a schoolroom in the middle in one story, lighted by large five-light mullioned and transomed windows, and living-rooms in two stories at either end. The roof is of low

pitch, and covered with stone slates without parapets or copings, but on each gable-end is a small finial. The walling is of stone rubble, with wrought stone quoins and window dressings, and the windows are all square-headed with chamfered mullions, and labels formed by the weathered string-courses which run round the building.

In addition to the school the **CHARITIES** parish possesses several charities⁷⁶ applicable generally for the relief of the poor and for apprenticing children.⁷⁷ The township of Middleton has some benefactions for the



MIDDLETON: THE GRAMMAR SCHOOL

of 8 marks out of the manor of Cuerdley; Raines D. (Chet. Lib.).

On 10 Mar. 1442-3 Henry Pendlebury, priest, was admitted to the newly-founded chantry of St. Mary and St. Cuthbert, on the resignation of Thomas Pevall (? Thurstan Percival), last chaplain, and took oath to observe the statutes; Lich. Epis. Reg. ix, fol. 126. A Thurstan Percival was vicar of Leigh in 1474.

In 1496 Lawrence Smith was the chaplain of the chantry of Middleton; Towneley MS. CC, no. 637. He gave evidence about 1514, in the *Cockley Moor Examinations*, being then seventy-four years of age and having been chantry priest for thirty-six years; p. 12.

In 1535 and again in 1548 Thomas Mawdesley was the cantarist. He continued to act as schoolmaster after the suppression of the chantry, on a stipend granted by the duchy, and appeared at the visitations of 1563 and 1565, being, however, decrepit. His will, made in 1554, is printed by Canon Raines; it shows that the old man—he was then sixty—had a great love for the church and his own part in it, for he left his property, among other things, 'to mend and uphold the free school,' and willed specially that the priest who should sing mass for his soul, and the souls of his parents and others, should 'uphold the free school at

Middleton according to the foundation'; he left money for the high altar and the maintenance of the rood light.

The revenue, which in 1535 was returned as £4 13s. 4d. (*Valor Eccl.* [Rec. Com.], v, 226), was derived from a rent issuing from the Jervaulx Abbey lands at Cuerdley, and another rent from Sedbergh.

⁷⁴ Raines, op. cit. 122.

⁷⁵ See the section on 'Schools'; *End. Charities Rep. for Middleton*, 1901, pp. 8-20; and Raines MSS. (Chet. Lib.), xiii, 184-92, where there is a drawing of it.

⁷⁶ An inquiry into the charities of Middleton was held on 3 and 4 April 1900, and the report here summarized was printed the following year, and includes that of 1828. It referred only to the portions of the parish not included within the county boroughs of Bolton and Bury. The portion within Bolton is Great Lever, which does not appear to have had any special endowment, but shares in the Guest and Hopwood Charities, which apply to the whole parish. The other townships not dealt with—Pillsworth, Birtle-with-Bamford, and Ashworth—likewise appear to have no special charities, at least none are recorded in the report of 1828.

⁷⁷ John Guest in 1653 left a rent-charge of £3 15s. a year each to a number of parishes, including Middleton, but the estate proving insufficient an Act of

Parliament was obtained providing for the investment of £500. The capital sum appears instead to have been divided among the parishes concerned, and the share allotted to Middleton and Radcliffe together, augmented by other contributions, was invested in lands in Buerdsill and Castleton, and the income divided equally between the parishes. The Middleton moiety, which in 1828 was £9, was distributed in linen cloth, the several townships sharing in proportion to their contributions to the church rate. The land, consisting of 11 acres in Castleton, is now let at £14 a year, and the share of Middleton is £6 14s. net, distributed in the old proportions. The part for the township of Middleton (19s. 6d.) is combined with the receipts from other benefactions, and the total sum, £32 13s. 8d., distributed in clothing, flannel, &c. A similar course is followed in other townships.

John Stock in 1692 gave various rent-charges of land, &c., in Northamptonshire for a weekly distribution of bread at Middleton Church, and for the apprenticing of poor boys or girls of his own kin, or born within the hamlets of Middleton, Pillsworth, Hopwood, and Thornham. The net income in 1828 was £22 11s., of which £15 12s. was set apart for the bread charity and the remainder paid in

poor,⁷⁸ and in conjunction with Thornham shares in the widows' gown charity.⁷⁹ Thornham has an educational fund,⁸⁰ and Ainsworth a small sum for the poor.⁸¹ Some benefactions have been lost.⁸²

MIDDLETON

Midelton, 1212; Middleton, 1292.

This township stretches for about 2 miles along the north bank of the rich valley of the Irk, and has an area of 1,930 acres.¹ The highest point, nearly 500 ft., is on the northern border; from this the higher ground stretches south-east towards the centre, with a valley to the north, through which Langley Brook flows west to the Roch, and another valley to the east, through which Whit Brook and another flow south from Hopwood to the Irk. The portion of the township to the north-east of the latter brook is called Boarshaw. Hebers and Langley occupy the northern part of the township; Bowler and Rhodes the western; Woodside is in the centre; and Middleton with its church, and formerly its hall, grew up in the angle between the Irk and Whit Brook. On the other side of the Irk is Tonge, now incorporated with Middleton. The population in 1901 was 25,178.²

The principal road is the 'new road' from Manchester to Rochdale, which crosses the Irk by a bridge, and passes northward through the town to the west of the church, and is there called Long Street. Outside the town a branch of it runs north-west and

north to Heywood. Another road to Heywood runs near the west and north-west border. The other principal road is the Manchester road from the west through Rhodes, keeping near the Irk, and joining the Rochdale road to the south-west of the church. It continues eastward, through the Market Place, and then divides, going south and east into Tonge, and north-east to Thornham. The Lancashire and Yorkshire Company's railway from Manchester to Rochdale, and the canal between the same places, pass through the extreme north-east part of the township. There are light railways along the roads from Rhodes to Tonge and Oldham, and from Middleton to Rochdale. The town is also connected with Manchester and other places by electric tramways.

In 1840 the town was described as 'situated in a fertile vale, skirted by rising grounds, well cultivated and rendered pleasant by groves of trees; a narrow steep ridge of sandy soil extends along the eastern side of the place, and a large number of the buildings have been erected on the summit and slope of this hill; a considerable number of cottages which may be considered a part of the town are on the sides and at the foot of the western and eastern banks of the eminence.'³ There was formerly a medicinal well, commemorated by the name Spaw.

The curfew bell is still rung at ten o'clock.⁴

The Boar's Head Inn, on the west side of the Rochdale road, is a picturesque black and white timber building on a stone base, with three gables to the street filled with quatrefoil ornament. The timber framing is plain, consisting of uprights and horizontal

apprentices' premiums, usually £2 each. The charity continues to be worked in the same way; one of the rent-charges has been redeemed, and the net income is now £23 12s. 1d.

Catherine Hopwood in 1758 bequeathed £400 for the benefit of the poor, those of Hopwood to have a moiety, and £100 for the education of children in Hopwood. To this capital was added £100 accumulated from the gifts of various benefactors between 1633 and 1726. The sum was paid to Robert Gregge Hopwood, and in 1828 £30 interest was received; of this £10 each was given to the churchwardens of Hopwood and Middleton and distributed in linen cloth, £5 was paid to the schoolmaster at Hopwood, and £5 distributed in linen cloth to persons in Middleton, Thornham, Hopwood, Pilsworth, and Birtle-with-Bamford. The capital has been invested in consols, and now the income, £17 os. 8d., is distributed among all the townships of the ancient parish, but Hopwood receives £8 19s. and Middleton £6 9s. 2d. The school at Hopwood having been closed, the share of interest intended for it is distributed with the general fund for the poor in flannel and blankets.

⁷⁸ William Moss in 1772 left £50 for a distribution of linen cloth to the poor; and Elizabeth Buckley in 1807 left £50, the interest of which was in 1828 distributed among a number of poor persons. Payment of the Moss Charity out of the rates was disallowed in 1848, but on the sale of an old workhouse the township discharged its debt by a payment of £45 1s. 6d. to the official trustees; the income, about £1 8s., is distributed by the overseers in gifts of calico. The capital of the Buckley charity has also been paid to the official trustees, and the interest is added to the

other sums for the poor. The rector of Middleton has always administered this charity.

A gift by Dame Eleanor Assheton in 1791 is understood to have passed into the hands of the Earl of Wilton, who, among other gifts, used to send £10 a year to the rector of Middleton. This system has been continued; in 1898 £5 4s. was spent on Sunday dinners for poor persons, and £4 16s. on clothing.

⁷⁹ The origin of this charity is not certainly known, but about a century ago the fund amounted to £400. From 1855 the dividends accumulated till in 1868 the official trustees secured the capital and accumulations, now represented by £733 17s. 8d. consols, the income being £20 3s. 8d. This is distributed in gowns for necessitous and deserving widows, and other articles of clothing, &c., the benefits being extended to single women if there is a surplus.

⁸⁰ Robert Stott of Thornham in 1869 left £120 for the school attached to Thornham Church; the income is £3 5s. Jane Bridge of Castleton in 1894 left £500 for the stipend of the minister officiating at Thornham, the services then being held in the old school.

⁸¹ Samuel Baron in 1773 bequeathed £200, half for the benefit of the Nonconformist chapel at Cockey, and half for the poor, a distribution of woollen or linen cloth being directed at the chapel after service on Christmas Day. At present £4 5s., half the income, derived from a ground rent in Ancoats, is distributed at Christmas among poor members of the congregation.

⁸² Three benefactions, amounting to £50, for the benefit of the poor of Hopwood, existed in 1828. The capital was in the hands of Robert Gregge Hopwood,

and the interest was paid to the poor rate. No payment has been made since Mr. Hopwood's death in 1854.

Robert Hopwood, M.D., in 1762 bequeathed a rent-charge of £21 arising out of Hanging Chadder for the clothing of seven poor men and seven poor women belonging to Hopwood. This charity was in active operation in 1828, but has since been lost. Captain Gregge Hopwood, on being applied to in 1861, replied that the gift was illegal under the Mortmain Acts; and this contention appears to be well founded.

¹ The acreage in the Census Report of 1901—4,775 acres, including 64 of inland water—is that of the enlarged area of the borough-township.

Tonge was included with Middleton in the first Improvement Act, 1861. Alkington and parts of Hopwood and Thornham were added in 1879. The borough of Middleton was incorporated in 1886, and now includes, in addition to the above, parts of Great and Little Heaton. In 1894 the whole borough was made into a single civil parish, the separate townships thus disappearing; Loc. Govt. Bd. Order 31625.

² This also refers to the enlarged area.

³ E. Butterworth, *Middleton*, 6. To this work also are due the notes on the rise of the manufactures. Other details have been derived from Mr. S. Partington's illustrated *Handbook* for the 1900 Jubilee of the Middleton and Tonge Industrial Society, an offshoot of the Co-operative movement. This volume contains extracts from the overseers' accounts of 1766 and later years (148, &c.); also a valuation of 1789 (157).

⁴ Information of the late Mr. John Dean, of Middleton, who kindly supplied other details.

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cross pieces, and the gables are without barge-boards ; but the whole presents a very charming appearance, the roofs retaining the old stone slates and the restoration of the building having been effected in a manner so as to preserve all the characteristic features of the old work. At the north end is a later addition⁶ in brick with a good 18th-century window and doorway. A stone in the cellar of the inn bears the date 1632. The building is the property of the Corporation.

The annual rush-bearing or wakes are held on the last Saturday but one in August. A mock mayor was formerly chosen on Easter Tuesday.⁶

The hearth tax return of 1666 shows that there were here 113 hearths liable. The largest dwellings were those of Lady Anne Assheton with eighteen hearths ; Mr. Simmonds, fourteen ; Richard Hilton the younger, ten ; Susan Wrigley, nine ; and Isaac Walkden, six.⁷

In the latter part of the 17th century the cotton manufacture began to take root in Middleton. For a long time it was a cottage industry, and even in 1770 there were only about twenty habitations in the village. The widow of the last Sir Ralph Assheton is stated to have been resolutely opposed to the introduction of the mill system, perhaps because of its destructive effect on the amenities of the place. The Suffields not residing, this objection ceased, but the land tenure was unfavourable. Silk-weaving was introduced about 1778, and has continued to be one

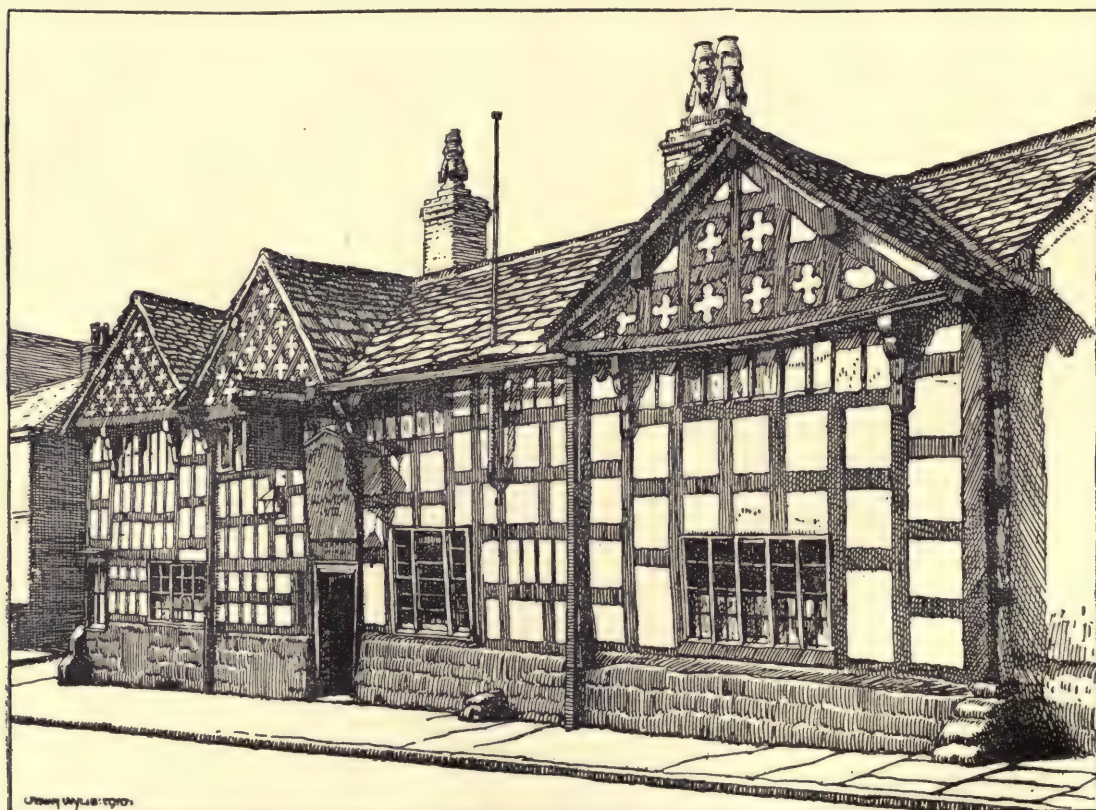
of the chief trades. By 1795 the 'more profitable branches of muslin and nanken' employed the weavers. The first cotton mill was built about 1800. In 1812 the Luddites attacked the mills.⁸ By 1833 all the branches of the cotton manufacture had been established. In that year the great calico-printing works were established at Rhodes. All these trades continue to flourish ; there are also iron foundries, machinery is made, and the manufacture of chemicals and soap is carried on.

A botanical society was formed in 1842 and an agricultural society in 1859. The Mechanics' Institute was opened in 1848.

The *Middleton Albion*, a weekly paper, was started in 1857, and lasted till 1895. The present newspaper, the *Guardian*, published on Fridays, was established in 1873.

The people were formerly very Radical in their politics, Chartism finding a ready welcome. Samuel Bamford, born at Middleton in 1788, poet and politician, was several times imprisoned on charges of treason. He died in 1872 and has a monument in the cemetery.⁹ Amos Ogden, who died in 1850, was another prominent Radical.¹⁰

MIDDLETON, like Bury, in the 12th *MANOR* century formed part of the Montbegon fee of Tottington, held later by the Lacys and the Earls and Dukes of Lancaster. With its dependencies or hamlets—making up the whole parish of Middleton—it was held of the lord of Tottington



THE BOAR'S HEAD INN : THE FRONT

⁵ Formerly the old Sessions House ; now used as an assembly room ; *Manch. Guard.* 29 Oct. 1904.

⁶ *Handbook*, 131. See also *N. and Q.* (4th ser.), vii, 119.

⁷ Subsidy R. bdle. 250, no. 9 Lancs.

⁸ There were also riots in 1820 and 1843.

⁹ There is an account of him in *Dict. Nat. Biog.*

¹⁰ *Handbook*, 143.

by one knight's fee, with payments of 10s. a year for castle-ward and 13s. 4d. for sake fee.¹¹

The tenants adopted the local surname. The earliest on record is Roger de Middleton, son of Alexander, who about 1180 made a grant of Ashworth.¹² In 1193, having shared in the rebellion of John, Count of Mortain, he made peace with the king by a fine of 5 marks.¹³ It was found in 1212 that he held the fee of one knight (in Middleton) 'of ancient tenure,' of Roger de Montbegon, and also held a plough-land in Cheetham of the king.¹⁴ He died before 1226, when Avice his widow was of the king's gift.¹⁵ His son Robert¹⁶ succeeded, but was dead in 1242, when his heir held the knight's fee in Middleton, part of the dower of the Countess of Lincoln.¹⁷

This heir was his son Roger, who in 1243 had a suit with Geoffrey de Middleton respecting the third

part of four plough-lands in Middleton.¹⁸ It was perhaps a later Roger de Middleton who appears in various ways as lord of the manor in the last quarter of the century,¹⁹ and whose son Roger succeeded him.²⁰

In 1313 Roger de Middleton and Agnes his wife made a settlement of the manor, the remainders after the death of Agnes being, in default of male issue, to their daughters in succession—Maud, Ellen, Alice, Margaret, Margery, and Joan.²¹ Four years later a similar arrangement was made with respect to the third part of the manor and the advowson of the church.²² Roger died in August 1322;²³ his



BARTON of Middleton. Ermine on a fesse gules three annulets or.

¹¹ *Lancs. Inq. and Extents* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), i, 59, 60.

Thomas, Earl of Lancaster, in right of his wife Alice, held the manor of Middleton before his forfeiture; *ibid.* ii, 102.

In the sheriff's compotus of 1348 account was rendered of 13s. 4d. of the rent of Isabel the queen for the manor of Middleton, of the inheritance of Alice, Countess of Lincoln; also of 10s. for ward of Lancaster Castle.

In 1840 it was stated: 'Middleton is held of the Castle of Clitheroe alone, and the lord owes suit and service to the principal court of the honour only; but in modern times courts have been established in various parts of the honour for the convenience of the holders in fee; and the court at which Middleton renders service is held at Holcombe in Tottington'; *E. Butterworth, Middleton*, 9.

¹² The charter is printed in *Lancs. Inq. p.m.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), iii, 448.

¹³ Farrer, *Lancs. Pipe R.* 77. In 1201-2 he paid $\frac{1}{2}$ mark to the tallage, and 20s. to the scutage in 1205-6; *ibid.* 151, 205. In 1202 he released to William de Radcliffe his claim on the advowson of Radcliffe; *Final Conc.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), i, 10. On the Middleton family see *Lancs. and Ches. Antiq. Soc.* xvii, 32-47.

¹⁴ *Inq. and Extents*, i, 60, 66. Roger de Middleton released to the monks of Stanlaw all his claim to Threpfield by Marland, his son Alan concurring; *Whalley Coucher* (Chet. Soc.), ii, 619, 620.

¹⁵ *Lancs. Inq. and Extents*, i, 129. She held nothing of the king.

¹⁶ *Whalley Coucher*, ii, 621. Roger de Middleton and Robert his son also attested a Byron charter; Byron Chartul. (Towneley MSS.), s.d. 22. Robert son of Roger de Middleton made a grant to his aunt Helewise; his brothers William and Alan were witnesses, and his seal—bearing a fleur de lis?—is appended; see notes on Middleton Church.

¹⁷ *Lancs. Inq. and Extents*, i, 153. Robert was living in 1236; *Final Conc.* i, 74.

¹⁸ By fine at Lancaster (in or before 1241) Geoffrey de Middleton had obtained the third part of four plough-lands with their appurtenances in Middleton, of which Robert de Middleton was then tenant. At Easter 1243 Roger son and heir of Robert made complaint respecting the third part of four plough-lands in Middleton—Pilsforth, Thornham, Ainsworth, and Birtle; for Geoffrey should have only

6 oxgangs in Pilsforth, 1 oxgang in Ainsworth, and the moiety of the assart in Pilsforth which used to belong to Robert father of Roger, whereas he had occupied about 10 oxgangs; and further, Geoffrey had thrown down the houses which Roger had erected on his part of those 10 oxgangs, and carried off all the corn sown there. The 6 oxgangs in Pilsforth were held by Avice widow of Roger de Middleton (4), Aylward Brand (1), and Robert son of Blethyn (1), and that in Ainsworth by Adam Blundus. Geoffrey on his part denied having occupied more than 7 oxgangs or done the damage alleged. The parties afterwards came to an agreement; *Curia Regis R.* 128, m. 4; 130, m. 12; also *Assize R.* 404, m. 3 d.

A Butterworth charter, but perhaps of much later date, was attested by Roger de Middleton and Geoffrey his brother; *Byron Chartul. Edw. I.* 64.

¹⁹ There is nothing to show whether three or only two Rogers held Middleton in succession. If there were three the connexion between the first and second is unknown.

By an undated charter (about 1260) Sir Geoffrey de Chetham granted to Roger son of Robert de Middleton his claim to the homage and service of Robert del Holt; Thomas de Prestwich and David de Hulton were witnesses; *Dods. MSS.* cxlii, fol. 129b.

Roger de Middleton occurs in 1275 when Robert de Stakel claimed a teneant in Middleton against him; *Dep. Keeper's Rep.* xlv, App. 185. He was witness to a Lacy grant in 1277; *Whalley Coucher* ii, 595; see also *Final Conc.* i, 218. Roger was defendant in claims made in 1292 by the Radcliffes, who were non-suited; *Assize R.* 408, m. 30 d. 32 d. In 1297 he presented his son John to the rectory of Middleton; *Lich. Epis. Reg.* i, fol. 8. In the same year he attested a Farnworth charter; *Lever Chartul.* (Add. MS. 32103), no. 69.

Roger de Middleton and Roger his son attested a Rochdale charter in 1296; *Byron Chartul. Edw. I.* 15.

About this time a Robert son of Roger de Middleton appears. He made a grant to Sir Roger de Pilkington and Margery his wife; *Lever Chartul.* no. 32. In 1306 he gave all his lands in Middleton to Roger de Middleton, 'his lord'; *Dods. MSS.* cxlii, fol. 129b. To a Hopwood charter of 1302 among the witnesses were John, rector of Middleton, Roger de

Middleton, and Robert de Middleton the younger.

²⁰ Roger de Middleton, the 'lord' of Robert (see last note), was probably this son, and the surrender made by Robert may indicate approximately the time of succession.

In 1302 Roger (or perhaps his father), as holding a knight's fee in Middleton of the Earl of Lincoln, contributed to the aid for marrying the king's daughter; *Inq. and Extents*, i, 313. In 1311 it was found that he held of the earl the manor of Middleton by a knight's fee and suit to the court of Clitheroe; *De Lacy Inq.* (Chet. Soc.), 19. In another extent of about the same period he was stated to hold four plough-lands and 2 oxgangs in Middleton; *Duchy of Lanc. Knights' Fees*, bble. 1, no. 11, fol. 27 d.

In 1306 as Roger son of Roger de Middleton he appeared as defendant; *Coram Rege R.* 184, m. 24 d. He obtained from Ellis de Ainsworth in 1310 a messuage and land in Middleton; *Final Conc.* ii, 6. In 1317 he secured three messuages and various lands from Richard de Rumworth and Maud his wife; *ibid.* ii, 22.

²¹ *Ibid.* ii, 17. This fine concerns two-thirds of the manor; the other third may have been held as dower by his father's widow, together with the advowson of the church.

²² *Ibid.* ii, 24. The widow had probably died. The remainders are the same as before. Roger and his wife in 1319 had an estate in Middleton settled upon them by Henry de Orrell and Cecily his wife; the remainders were as before, except that Joan was omitted; *ibid.* ii, 30.

²³ *Inq. p.m.* 16 Edw. II, no. 49. The writ was issued on 18 Aug. He held of the king in chief, inasmuch as the lordship of Tottington, like all other of Earl Thomas's lands, had been taken into the king's hands. There was a capital messuage; 80 acres in demesne worth 53s. 4d.; 10 acres of meadow, worth 10s., but 'nothing this year because mowed before Roger's death'; 10 acres of several pasture worth 20d.; the moiety of 100 acres of wood, held in common with the lady of Bury, 'whose herbage lies in the common pasture for the tenants of Bury and Middleton'; pannage of the same moiety; a water-mill worth 13s. 4d. a year; rents of free tenants 46s. 10d.; rents of other tenants 14s. The clear value of the manor was £7 2s. 6d. The manor was held by Roger jointly with his wife

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widow Agnes was living in 1353, but probably died shortly afterwards.²¹ The manor and advowson then went to the representative of the second daughter, Maud, who was first in the remainder. She married Thomas de Barton of Fryton in Rydale, by whom she had several sons;²² and secondly John de Ainsworth,²³ who continued after her death to hold the manor by the courtesy of England, but was outlawed.²⁷ Maud's right passed to her son John de Barton,²⁸ after whom Thomas de Barton, perhaps as

trustee, was in possession,²⁹ followed by William, the son of John. William de Barton occurs between 1363 and 1384.³⁰ He married Isabel, daughter of William de Radcliffe, and had a son Ralph, who died in 1398 seised of the manor of Middleton with its hamlets of Ashworth, Birtle, Ainsworth, Meadowcroft, and Lynalx. The heir was his son Richard, born at Middleton in 1386. The wardship was granted to James de Radcliffe.³¹ Richard de Barton had sons John³² and Richard, and was living in

by the service of one knight's fee; by suit to the county court of Lancaster from six weeks to six weeks, to the wapentake court of Salford from three weeks to three weeks, and to the court of Tottington from three weeks to three weeks; also by a payment of 10s. a year for castle-ward and 13s. 4d. for sake fee. Roger's heirs were his daughters—Ellen (aged twenty), Maud (eighteen), Alice (sixteen), Margaret (twelve), and Margery (nine).

There is nothing to show why Maud, the second daughter, took precedence of her sister Ellen in the succession. The younger daughters, Margaret and Margery, appear to have died without issue, as in 1350 Maud, Ellen, and Alice were described as the co-heirs, and the last-named seems to have resigned her right to her sister Maud; Assize R. 1444, m. 3 d.

²¹ She presented to the rectory in 1328 (as Agnes de Barton), 1339, 1340, and 1343, as will be seen by the list of rectors. She married (2) John de Barton, and (3) John de Malton. From a Rivington dispensation it appears that Agnes was a sister of Adam de Hulton; Towneley MS. GG, no. 2055.

John de Barton and Agnes his wife were plaintiffs in 1324 in respect of a messuage and land in Middleton; De Banco R. 252, m. 43 d. In 1328 John de Malton and Agnes his wife demised to trustees the dower lands of Agnes, after the death of John de Barton; Dods. MSS. cliii, fol. 82. In the following year Richard de Whitlegh and Alice his wife, Henry the Mounier of Thornton and Ellen his wife, and Robert son of Robert de Thornton did not prosecute their claim for land in Middleton against John de Malton and Agnes his wife, Thomas de Barton, Maud his wife, and John, Roger, Thomas, Adam, and William, their sons; Assize R. 427, m. 3 d. A settlement was made in 1335; *Final Conc.* ii, 97.

Agnes, as widow of Roger de Middleton, in 1336 released to her daughter Maud her right to lands in Meadowcroft, Lynalx, Birtle, Ainsworth, and Ashworth in the vill of Middleton; Dods. MSS. cxlii, fol. 129. Her seal showed a lion rampant. Agnes, the widow, complained in 1340 that Thomas de Newbold, rector of Middleton, Geoffrey son of Ellen de Middleton, and others had broken her close at Middleton; De Banco R. 321, m. 244; 326, m. 79. In 1347 she made a claim against Roger de Harwood and Ellen his wife, who was the eldest daughter of Roger; and in the same year Geoffrey Pushe claimed half an oxgang of land against Agnes; Assize R. 1435, m. 51 d; De Banco R. 351, m. 223 d. Agnes was a defendant in 1353; Assize R. 435, m. 22 d.

²² See the plea quoted in the last note.

Thomas de Barton and Maud his wife were in 1331 defendants in a plea respecting a messuage and lands in Middleton; De Banco R. 287, m. 480 d.

The Bartons are usually described as 'of Rydale,' and probably did not reside at Middleton till the end of the 14th century.

²⁶ Maud wife of John de Ainsworth in 1342 complained that her trees at Middleton had been cut down and carried off; De Banco R. 332, m. 30 d. Roger de Harwood and Ellen his wife in 1344 and later claimed a messuage, 80 acres of land, &c., in Middleton, against John de Ainsworth and Maud his wife. It was alleged that Joan, daughter of Roger son of Roger de Middleton, had died without issue, and that the estate claimed should then have passed to Ellen; De Banco R. 340, m. 430; 345, m. 330 d.; 349, m. 279 d.

²⁷ He was outlawed for the death of Adam son of Ellis de Knowles, and the manor taken into the duke's hands, as appears by an inquiry held in 1366. After a year and a day it should be given to William son of John de Barton of Rydale, and others; Dods. MSS. cxlii, fol. 130b; L.T.R. Memo. R. 131, 132; Chan. Inq. p.m. 43 Edw. III, pt. i, no. 72. Though the date of the inquiry was 1366 it will be seen from the list of rectors that the Duke of Lancaster presented to the rectory in 1351, by reason of the forfeiture of John de Ainsworth. John was still living, and the duke in possession, in 1382, but must have died soon after this, as Ralph de Barton presented to the rectory in 1386; *Cal. Pat.* 1381-5, p. 132; and list of rectors. John de Ainsworth's son John was outlawed for debt in 1373; *Lancs. Inq. p.m.* (Chet. Soc.), i, 27, 37.

²⁸ John de Barton of Rydale in 1350 claimed thirty messuages, 200 acres of land, &c., in Middleton, held by John de Ainsworth, Maud his wife, and John their son. It appeared that the elder John received two-thirds of the estate claimed with Maud his wife, and the other third by grant of her sister Alice, with life remainder to Robert son of Thomas de Barton; Assize R. 1444, m. 3 d.

Grants by Alice daughter of Roger de Middleton to John son of Robert de Ainsworth and Maud his wife in 1347-8 are preserved in Towneley MS. GG. no. 1710, 1927.

In 1351 John de Barton charged Adam de Meadowcroft and others with driving his cattle away; Duchy of Lanc. Assize R. 1, m. 5, 6. He made a similar complaint in 1352; *ibid.* R. 2, m. 10 d. He was defendant for a debt as late as 1356, but 'did not appear'; *ibid.* R. 5, m. 7, 25.

He is called 'John de Rydale' in the aid 1346-55, when he held the knight's fee in Middleton formerly held by the heirs of Robert de Middleton; *Feud. Aids*, iii, 87.

²⁹ Thomas was no doubt the younger brother of John, mentioned above in 1329. He appears as defendant in a plea respecting lands in Middleton from Dec. 1355, the claimant being John son of Adam de Wardley; Duchy of Lanc. Assize R. 4, m. 25 d.; 5, m. 10; 6, m. 4; 7, m. 5.

³⁰ As in the above-cited inquisition on the outlawry of John de Ainsworth, William son of John de Barton was defendant in 1363 and plaintiff in 1367, in suits respecting tenements in Middleton; De Banco R. 415, m. 142 d.; 426, m. 285 d. In 1370 Thomas de Barton of Rydale released to William de Barton and Isabel daughter of William de Radcliffe all his right in the manor of Middleton; the armorial seal shows ermine, on a fess three annulets; Dods. MSS. cxlii, fol. 130b. About the same time the feoffees settled on William and Isabel the manor of Middleton with the advowson of the church, and lands in Ainsworth, Meadowcroft, Thornham, Hanging Chadder, Birtle and Ashworth, after the death of John de Ainsworth; *ibid.* fol. 130.

In 1379 William de Barton of Fryton was to cross the seas in the forces of John of Gaunt; Baines, *Lancs.* (ed. 1868), i, 115. In 1381-2 he granted to Richard Browne of Nasserton land in Middleton and the advowson of the church there; Close, 5 Ric. II, m. 28 d. By fine in Aug. 1382 he granted the manor to William de Atherton for life, with reversion to himself and his heirs; *Final Conc.* iii, 14.

The writ of Diem cl. extr. after his death was issued 12 Dec. 1384; *Dep. Keeper's Rep.* xxxii, App. 357.

Isabel survived her husband, for in 1391 Ralph son of William de Barton of Rydale granted a rent of £10 to his mother Isabel daughter of William de Radcliffe, to be taken annually out of his manor of Middleton; Raines D. (Chet. Lib.).

³¹ *Lancs. Inq. p.m.* (Chet. Soc.), i, 86, 93. Nothing is said as to the tenure of the manor, but its 'hamlets' are named as Ashworth, Birtle, Ainsworth, Meadowcroft, and Lynalx. See also *Dep. Keeper's Rep.* xl, App. 528.

A settlement of the manor of Middleton was made in 1390, the remainder being to Richard the son of Ralph; Dods. MSS. cxlii, fol. 131. The feoffees granted Ralph leave to present to the rectory; *ibid.*; and in fact he presented in 1386, 1390, and 1395, as appears by the list of rectors. Ralph probably married a daughter of William Fairfax; Dods. MSS. cliii, fol. 94. In 1389-90 he enfeoffed John Fairfax, rector of Prescott, Thomas Gerard, and Thomas Fairfax, of the manor of Middleton, for his life; Close R. 13 Ric. II, pt. i, m. 20 d.

³² Richard de Barton proved his age in 1408; *Dep. Keeper's Rep.* xxxiii, App. 8. He in 1418 enfeoffed John del Booth and others of the tenements occupied by William del Holt, William del Lumhalges (Lomax), and Christopher Kay, to hold for his mother Isabel for her life and then to that one of his sons who should marry a daughter of Sir John Byron; Dods. MSS. lviii, fol. 166. The seal showed the Barton arms as before. It appears that John his son and heir was to marry

1457.³³ The elder son died before his father, leaving a daughter and heir Margery, who was in 1439 contracted to marry Ralph Ashton, a younger son of Sir John Ashton of Ashton-under-Lyne.³⁴

The descent of the manor is somewhat uncertain.³⁵ By a number of agreements made in 1457 a great part of the estate was settled upon heirs of 'Richard Barton, of Middleton, the elder, esquire,'³⁶ the grandfather of Margery. Richard's widow Alice had lands granted to her as dower early in 1466.³⁷ By 1480 the greater part of the Middleton estate was held by Sir Ralph Ashton and Margery his wife; but Alice Barton widow of Richard, Margery Barton widow of John, and Richard and Ralph Barton, held various messuages and lands 'of the inheritance of Margery.'³⁸ Three years later it was recorded that Sir Ralph Ashton held the manor of Middleton in right of his wife, by one knight's fee, rendering yearly 13s. 4d. and for ward of Lancaster Castle 10s.³⁹

Sir Ralph Ashton, brought up at court and made a knight before 1464 and a banneret by Richard

Duke of Gloucester at Hutton field in Scotland, 1482,⁴⁰ held various public offices⁴¹ and was by Richard III appointed Vice-Constable of England.⁴² In his native place he acquired an evil reputation, the custom of 'riding the Black Lad' at Ashton commemorating (according to the general opinion) the popular detestation of his conduct.⁴³ Early in 1484 he made a lease to Richard his son for twenty years of the manor of Middleton,⁴⁴ and probably died shortly afterwards.⁴⁵ In 1487 Richard Ashton, his son and heir, obtained a general pardon from Henry VII.⁴⁶ He was made a knight in 1497,⁴⁷ and held the manor of Middleton by the service of a knight's fee, until his death, 28 April 1507; the clear value at that time was estimated at £109 6s. 8d.⁴⁸

Richard Ashton, his son and heir, then about



ASHTON of Middleton.
Argent on a molet sable
an annulet or.

Margaret daughter of Sir John Byron, or, should she die, then Ellen, another daughter; Dods. MSS. lviii, fol. 166b; Harl. MS. 2112, fol. 113b/150b. In 1421 John del Booth, the elder, and other feoffees demised to John son of Richard de Barton of Middleton and Margaret his wife certain tenements in Ainsworth; Dods. MSS. lviii, fol. 164b.

³³ In 1425 Robert de Pilkington and William his brother released to Richard de Barton of Middleton all their right in his lands; *ibid.* cxlii, fol. 131. Richard had sworn on the gospels that he would give to Richard son of Robert de Pilkington seisin for life of lands called the Rhodes in Middleton; *ibid.* fol. 131b. There are several deeds relating to this grant in Towneley MS. GG, no. 1692, 1778-9, 1837-8, 1844-5.

In 1431 he was found to hold a knight's fee in Middleton; *Feud. Aids*, iii, 96. He was in 1444 exempted from serving on juries, &c.; *Dep. Keeper's Rep.* xl, App. 538.

³⁴ Dods. MSS. cxlii, fol. 132, 133; the agreement was made between Richard Barton and Sir Thomas Ashton, brother of Ralph. Richard was to settle £100 a year out of his lands on Margery in fee. She is described as 'cousin and heir apparent' of Richard, and was under fourteen years of age. Alice the wife of Richard is mentioned; *ibid.* fol. 133.

³⁵ See an essay by Mr. John Dean in *Lancs. and Ches. Antiq. Soc.* xvi, 102-33. There may have been two Richards in succession, which would explain the uncertainty as to the patronage of the church in 1462, when a Richard Barton presented. This uncertainty, however, may have been due to a claim put forward for the Crown. In an extent of 1445-6 it is recorded that 'Richard Barton holds the manor of Middleton by the service of one knight's fee; the relief therefor being 100s. He was in ward'; Duchy of Lanc. Knights' Fees, bde. 2, no. 20. The tenant at this time at first sight appears to have been Richard the son of Richard, and a minor, but the final clause no doubt refers to the minority of the elder Richard. There is on record, moreover, a description of the monument of Richard de Barton and Alice his wife. The inscription has been incorrectly read, stating that Richard died in 1451; *Trans. Hist. Soc.* (new ser.), vi, 258. His widow Alice was still alive in 1480.

³⁶ These agreements, between Ralph Ashton and Margery his wife on the one side and Richard Barton the elder on the other, make provision for Richard Barton the younger, Thomas, William, and Ralph, four sons of Richard Barton the elder, giving each a life interest in certain messuages and lands in Middleton, with remainder to 'the right heirs of the said Richard Barton the elder'; *Final Conc.* iii, 119-20. 'Richard Barton the elder' must be the grandfather of Margery, the fines securing the reversion of the lands to her as the 'right heir,' and the fine of 1480, quoted later, helps to show that this is the true meaning.

³⁷ Dods. MSS. cxlii, fol. 133; an indenture reciting that Sir Ralph Ashton and Margery his wife had assigned to Alice widow of Richard Barton certain rents in Lancashire for her dower in Fryton and other rents for her dower in Middleton.

About the same time Sir Ralph and Margery, as heir of Richard Barton, were claiming the custody of the manor of Great Lever; *Pal. of Lanc. Writs Proton.* 6 Edw. IV.

³⁸ *Final Conc.* iii, 138. Sir Ralph Ashton and Margery held twenty-seven messuages, 1,000 acres of lands, &c. in Middleton; while Alice Barton held eight messuages, 300 acres of land, &c.; Margaret Barton eleven messuages, 200 acres of land, &c.; Richard Barton two messuages, 100 acres of land, &c.; and Ralph Barton six messuages, 40 acres of land, &c. all of the inheritance of Margery and reverting to her.

³⁹ Feodary of 1483; Duchy of Lanc. Misc. Vols. 130.

⁴⁰ Metcalfe, *Bk. of Knights*, 6.

⁴¹ See the account in *Dict. Nat. Biog.* and the numerous references to him in the Calendars of the Patent Rolls of Edward IV and Richard III. Reservations of grants to him were made in several acts of resumption; *Rolls of Parl.* v, 528, 608; vi, 97, 234. He seems to have been concerned with Yorkshire principally. His celebrity makes it the more remarkable that the date and circumstances of his death are unknown.

A Ralph Ashton of Middleton, perhaps a son, was pardoned in 1479; Towneley MS. RR, no. 1442.

⁴² The patent is printed in Whitaker, *Whalley*, ii, 151. It gave, in particular,

authority to examine and proceed against persons suspected of high treason.

About the same time Richard III is said to have made a grant to Sir Ralph of the manor of Middleton; Aikin, *Manch.* 242.

In 1480 Sir Ralph Ashton of Fryton and Margery his wife granted land in Birtle and Middleton, &c. to his son Richard and Isabel his wife, daughter of John Talbot of Salebury; Kuerden fol. MS. 39, no. 648; also 38, no. 635; Towneley, MS. HH, no. 2061.

⁴³ See the account of Ashton-under-Lyne.

⁴⁴ Dods. MSS. cxlii, fol. 132b; it included the reversion of all the lands in Middleton after the death of Dame Margaret Harcourt, widow, Richard Barton, and Ralph Barton, which sometime were the lands of Richard Barton, father of the said Richard. Dame Margaret Harcourt was the widow of John Barton, who married Sir William Atherton (Kuerden III, A 13, n. 32), and then Sir Robert Harcourt, K.G.; their monument remains in Stanton Harcourt Church; Collins, *Peerage* (ed. 1779), v, 267.

⁴⁵ In a plea of 1509 is cited an inquisition of 20 Hen. VII made after the death of Sir Ralph Ashton of Middleton, in which he is stated to have died on 10 April, Richard his son and heir being twenty-four years of age; *Pal. of Lanc. Plea R.* 110, m. 8. The year of his death is not mentioned, but from the age of his son as given it must have been about 1485, as the son was a father in 1482. Sir Ralph was living in 1485, as appears by the Calendar of Patent Rolls of that year.

⁴⁶ *Dep. Keeper's Rep.* xl, App. 541.

⁴⁷ In Scotland, by Lord Strange; Metcalfe, *Knights*, 31.

⁴⁸ Duchy of Lanc. Inq. p.m. iii, 24; there is recited a feoffment of two messuages, 200 acres of land, &c. parcel of the manor, to his son Richard and Anne his wife.

His brass, showing the figures of himself, his wife Isabel, and their family of seven sons and six daughters, is given in Mr. Dean's paper above mentioned, and in Thornely's *Lancs. Brasses*, 73. It may be identified by the description in *Trans. Hist. Soc.* vi, 258-9. There is another brass commemorating his daughter Alice and her three husbands; Thornely, *op. cit.* 203.

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twenty-five years of age, succeeded. At the battle of Flodden he captured Sir John Forman, serjeant-porter to James IV, and Alexander Barrett, high sheriff of Aberdeen, with two others, whom he delivered to the English commander, the Earl of Surrey, afterwards created Duke of Norfolk.⁴⁹ From the king in 1523 he received a perpetual grant of a leet or view of frankpledge in the vill of Middleton, with courts, fines, and amercements belonging; also the park and free warren in his demesne lands in the manor, with all liberties.⁵⁰ He was also made a knight.⁵¹ Sir Richard died 11 January 1548-9, and was buried at Middleton.⁵² His son and heir Richard was thirty-eight years of age, but did not long enjoy possession, dying on 4 August 1550.⁵³ His son, another Richard, who was fourteen years of age,⁵⁴ had also but a brief tenure, as he died on 17 July 1563, holding the manor of Middleton by the ancient service of a

knight's fee and 23s. 4d. rent, and also the manor of Radcliffe, a recent acquisition. Richard his son and heir was only five years old.⁵⁵

Richard Assheton twice served as sheriff of Lancashire,⁵⁶ and was knighted at the coronation of James I.⁵⁷ He died in 1617,⁵⁸ and his son and heir Richard followed him within twelve months, leaving as heir his son Ralph, then twelve years of age.⁵⁹ He paid £25 in 1632 on refusing knighthood.⁶⁰ In 1640 he was returned as one of the knights of the shire.⁶¹ In the Civil War he took a leading part on the Parliamentary side.⁶² He was appointed a deputy lieutenant of the county in 1642, in opposition to the Crown nominees, and sequestrator in 1643. As colonel of the levies he was constantly in active service; commanded at the siege of Bolton in 1643, relieved the town of Lancaster and defeated Lord Derby at Whalley, but was himself defeated at Mid-

⁴⁹ *Visit. of 1533* (Chet. Soc.), 59; he wished to know how his achievement could be commemorated in his arms. His wife was Anne daughter of Sir Thomas Strickland, and she had borne him seven sons and a daughter.

In June 1521 an agreement was made by Sir Thomas Gerard and Richard Ashton by which Richard son and heir of the latter was to marry Anne daughter of Sir Thomas; Anne wife of Richard Ashton the father, and Thomas and Edmund his brothers, are named; Dods. MSS. lviii, fol. 166, no. 34.

Sir Richard Ashton partly rebuilt the church; see *Iter Lancastrense* (Chet. Soc.), 3, 34.

⁵⁰ *Duchy of Lanc. Misc. Bks.* 22, p. 63. He was not described as a knight at the visitation in 1533, but in 1541 as Sir Richard he contributed to the subsidy; *Misc.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), i, 143.

⁵¹ *Duchy of Lanc. Inq. p.m.* ix, 28; he held the manor of Middleton, twenty messuages, &c. there, and the advowson of the church, by the service of a knight's fee and a rent of 23s. 4d. a year. The inquisition gives details of provision for Lady Anne Bellingham, widow of Sir Robert Bellingham, whom he married as his second wife (19 Oct. 1541) and who was living at Middleton in 1549; also (1541) for Katherine wife of his son and heir Richard, also living at Middleton; also for Ralph, Leonard, John, and Thomas, younger sons, living respectively at Atherton, Chelsea, Cambridge, and Newstead, Notts. Robert, another son, was rector of Middleton, John succeeding him.

Sir Richard was buried at Middleton on 14 Jan. 1548-9. In the older printed pedigrees there seems to be some confusion at this point.

Special licence of entry was given to the heir in 1549; *Dep. Keeper's Rep.* xxxix, App. 550.

⁵² *Duchy of Lanc. Inq. p.m.* ix, no. 23. The provision made for the younger sons is set forth as in the last inquisition; John Ashton was still at Cambridge. Mary the daughter of Sir Richard had married Sir John Southworth. By Richard Ashton and Katherine his wife various messuages in Middleton, including the manor or site of the manor, were granted to trustees as a marriage settlement on Richard the son and heir, and Elizabeth daughter of Sir William Davenport.

For the marriage see Earwaker, *East Ches.* i, 437, 451. The marriage was arranged in 1551, and Elizabeth accord-

ingly became seised of Middleton Hall, the Little Park (2 acres), and lands in Middleton called Brerleighs, the Bottoms, and the Hills. After Richard Ashton's death she appears to have married one Bradburn, and being convicted of felony and murder, her lands came into the queen's possession. Elizabeth died at Middleton 17 Feb. 1606-7, the conviction having never been rescinded; *Lancs. Inq. p.m.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), i, 75.

⁵³ Special licence of entry was granted to the heir on 24 June 1558; *Dep. Keeper's Rep.* xxxix, App. 550.

⁵⁴ *Duchy of Lanc. Inq. p.m.* xi, 3; in addition to Middleton and Radcliffe he held land in Bamford of the Earl of Derby. The inquisition states that Katherine widow of his father Richard, who afterwards married Sir William Radcliffe, was then living at Ordsall. A few days before his death Richard Ashton granted to trustees the manor and church of Radcliffe and Middleton Park for the use of John, a younger son.

In April 1564 the queen granted Gilbert Gerard custody of the body and marriage of the heir, with an annual rent of £13 6s. 8d. out of the manor of Middleton; *Duchy of Lanc. Misc. Bks.* xxiii, 262 d.; *Dep. Keeper's Rep.* xxxix, App. 550. Warrant for livery of his lands was granted to the heir in Nov. 1579; *ibid.* The minority probably accounts for the unsatisfactory character of the pedigree recorded in 1567; *Visit.* (Chet. Soc.), 64.

⁵⁵ In 1597-8 and 1606-7; *P.R.O. List*, 73. About this time the spelling of the surname became fixed in its present form.

A settlement of the estates was made in 1582 by Richard Assheton and Mary his wife; *Pal. of Lanc. Feet of F. bde.* 44, m. 73.

⁵⁷ Metcalfe, *Knights*, 145. About the same time a settlement of the manors of Middleton and Radcliffe, &c., was made by Sir Richard Assheton and Mary his wife; *Pal. of Lanc. Feet of F. bde.* 65, no. 42. A brief pedigree was recorded in 1613; *Visit.* (Chet. Soc.), 7.

⁵⁸ 'Dec. 27, St. John's Day [1617] I with my Coz. Assheton to Middleton. Sir Ric. had left his speech, and did not know a man. . . . He departed very calmly about eight at night. No extraordinary sorrow, because his death was so apparent in his sickness. Presently upon his death there was inquiring after his will, which was showed by Mr. John Greenhalgh of Brandlesome and Sir Richard's second son

Ralph Assheton, who with my lady were executors, and Coz. Assheton of Whalley supervisor. My now Coz. Assheton of Middleton, Richard, began to demand the keys of the gates and of the study for the evidence, and to call for the plate, upon cause his brother John had some part in them. There were some likeness of present falling out of him and the executors, which certainly had been, had not my Coz. Assheton of Whalley so [managed] as was little or no discord. The reason was former unkindness between Sir Ric. and his son, to which Sir Ric. was moved by my lady and those that were of her faction'; *N. Assheton's Diary* (Chet. Soc.), 70-2. Sir Richard was buried at Middleton on 28 Dec. 'My lady' was Sir Richard's second wife, Mary, daughter of Robert Holt, of Ashworth.

⁵⁹ *Lancs. Inq. p.m.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), ii, 104-7. The inquisition states that his father, Sir Richard Assheton, had in 1599 assigned an annual rent of £20 as provision for his son John, who in 1619 was still living at Middleton; he made a settlement on Mary his wife in 1604, who also was living in 1619; in 1614 he provided for his youngest son Ralph. On Sir Richard's death, 27 Dec. 1617, his son and heir Richard succeeded. He made various grants of annuities, including one of £13 6s. 8d. to his younger brother John, who gave him £100. The manor of Middleton and various messuages and lands in Middleton, Pilsworth, Thornham, Ainsworth, Birtle, Siddal, and Tonge were held of the king as of his Duchy of Lancaster by knight's service and 23s. 4d. rent, and were worth 100 marks clear per annum. Mary his wife survived him, and was the executrix.

There is in the church a brass of Richard Assheton, his wife, and their six sons and two daughters, with an inscription stating that he died 7 Nov. 1618 in the forty-first year of his age. He was buried on 19 Nov. His widow, a 'right worthy and truly religious matron,' was also buried at Middleton, 27 Feb. 1644-5.

⁶⁰ *Misc.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), i, 223.

In 1628 and 1636 he made settlements of the manor of Middleton; *Pal. of Lanc. Feet of F. bde.* 114, no. 5; 129, no. 18.

⁶¹ Pink and Beaven, *Parl. Repre. of Lancs.* 71; he was 'excluded or disabled by ordinance of the House in 1648.'

⁶² In 1642 it was understood he was to bring £250 to the aid of the Parliament; *N. and Q.* (Ser. 1), xii, 360.

dlewich in Cheshire. Soon afterwards he took part in the siege of Lathom, and fought at Preston and Appleby with greater success.⁶³ He died 17 February 1650-1, and was buried at Middleton, where there is a memorial brass commemorating him and his wife Elizabeth, daughter of John Kay.⁶⁴

The eldest son, Richard, having died in infancy, by witchcraft as it was supposed,⁶⁵ the new lord of Middleton was Ralph Assheton, the second son. Like others of his father's party he welcomed the restoration of the monarchy and was created a baronet in 1660.⁶⁶ He died five years later,⁶⁷ and was succeeded by his son Ralph, the second baronet, who enjoyed the estates for fifty years, dying in 1716.⁶⁸ He had succeeded to the Whalley Abbey estate in 1697, in right of his mother. He represented Liverpool in Parliament in 1676, and was knight of the shire, as a Whig, from 1694 to 1698.⁶⁹ Having no son he was succeeded in the baronetcy and at Middleton by his nephew Ralph, son of his brother Richard. This Sir Ralph⁷⁰ died in 1765, leaving two daughters as co-heirs, and the baronetcy became extinct.⁷¹ Mary, the elder daughter, married Harbord Harbord, afterwards Lord Suffield, and had Middleton Manor with her moiety of the estate; Eleanor, the younger daughter, married Sir Thomas Egerton, afterwards Lord Grey de Wilton, and received the manor of Radcliffe.⁷²

⁶³ The following references are from Ormerod's *Civil War Tracts* (Chet. Soc.): p. 2—Deputy-Lieutenant, 1642; p. 16—prevented the King's Commissioners from seizing the powder in Manchester, June 1642; pp. 51, 333—sent 150 of his Middleton tenants in complete arms to defend Manchester, where they behaved very steadily, Sept. 1642; p. 62—was allowed a 'small brass piece' for the defence of his house, Nov. 1642; p. 81—Colonel in command of the 500 troops who guarded Bolton against the attacks of Lord Derby's troops, Feb. 1642-3; p. 87—relieved Lancaster, Mar. 1643; p. 90—appointed on the committee for 'sequestering notorious delinquents' estates, 1 Apr. 1643; pp. 95-8—defeated Lord Derby at Whalley, Apr. 1643; p. 98—the 'brave and victorious Colonel Assheton' drove the Royalists out of Wigan, 22 Apr. 1643; pp. 104-6—captured Liverpool, Hornby, and Thurland, May and June 1643; p. 153—surprised and overpowered by Lord Byron near Middlewich, Dec. 1643; p. 154—took part a few days later in the relief of Nantwich, being particularly praised by Fairfax; pp. 162-85—took part in the first siege of Lathom, Feb. to May 1644; p. 252—commanded the Lancashire forces against the Duke of Hamilton, June 1648; p. 261—he and his men highly praised by Cromwell for their gallantry in the fight at Preston, Aug. 1648; p. 274—relieved Cocker mouth and took Appleby, Oct. 1648; p. 277—his disbanded troops mutinied at Clitheroe, Mar. 1649. Colonel Assheton is frequently mentioned in the *Lancs. War* (Chet. Soc.); in particular are described his activity and success in clearing the county of Lord Derby and his men in the spring of 1643 (pp. 37-40). Some of his letters, dated 1645, are printed in Whitaker's *Whalley*, ii, 153, 154; one sentence is not complimentary to the other leading Parliamentarians of the county:—'If Stanley, Booth, Holcroft, Egerton, and such like must be applauded and chiefly observed, I will not only stay here but send for my son to come to me, for I scorn that he shall receive

orders from them.' The same consciousness of his own importance is manifest on the spirited brass in the church.

⁶⁴ Thornely, *Brasses*, 291.

⁶⁵ Whitaker, *Whalley*, ii, 152; one Utley was for it executed at Lancaster Assizes. Richard son of Ralph Assheton, esq., was buried at Middleton 27 Mar. 1630. John another son is said to have retired to France after the execution of Charles I, and to have died there.

⁶⁶ G.E.C. *Complete Baronetage*, iii, 113. He married Anne daughter of Sir Ralph Assheton of Whalley, and recorded a pedigree in 1664; Dugdale, *Visit.* (Chet. Soc.), 14.

A settlement of the family manors was made in 1650 by Ralph Assheton and Elizabeth Assheton, widow; Pal. of Lanc. Feet of F. bdle. 148, m. 119.

⁶⁷ He was buried at Middleton 2 May 1665. His funeral is described in *Lancs. and Ches. Hist. and Gen. Notes*, iii, 67.

⁶⁸ He died 4 May and was buried 10 May 1716 at Middleton, where there is a monument. Two daughters and co-heirs were married at Middleton within twelve months—Katherine on 27 Nov. to Thomas Lister of Arnold Biggin, Yorkshire; and Mary on 19 Feb. to Nathaniel Curzon of Kedleston. A grandson of the former daughter, Thomas Lister, was created Lord Ribblesdale in 1797; the elder son of the latter daughter, Nathaniel, was created Lord Scarsdale in 1761, and the younger, Assheton, was created Viscount Curzon in 1802. The other daughter and co-heir Anne married Humphrey Trafford; from her are descended the Vavasours of Spaldington.

⁶⁹ Pink and Beaven, op. cit. 191, 80.

⁷⁰ Settlements of the manor were made by Sir Ralph Assheton in 1721 and again in 1739; Pal. of Lanc. Plea R. 512, m. 3; 548, m. 4.

⁷¹ There is a monument to him in the church, erected by his daughters; also to his widow Eleanor, 'who closed a most exemplary life of piety and charity' on 25 Mar. 1793.

⁷² By fine in Mar. 1776 a settlement

The manor and estates remained in the Harbord family for the greater part of a century.⁷³ They were about 1848 sold by Lord Suffield to Peto and Betts, great railway contractors,⁷⁴ and on their bankruptcy in 1861 were disposed of to various persons.⁷⁵ William Wagstaffe acquired the lordship of the manor and the advowson, with a considerable share of the land, and about 1880 Mr. Alfred Butterworth of Werneth purchased them.⁷⁶

Middleton Hall was situated a little to the south of the church, and was pulled down in 1845, a cotton factory being built on the site. An account of the house written immediately before its demolition describes it as an ancient structure erected at different periods, the oldest part being of timber and plaster, with later additions in stone. A south front, which was of brick, was added at the beginning of the 19th century by the first Lord Suffield. The house contained some good panelling and plaster ceilings, and a large stone chimneypiece with the date 1587.⁷⁷ The original timber house is said to have been built



HARBORD, Lord Suffield. Quarterly azure and gules a king's crown or between four lions rampant argent.

was made by Harbord Harbord and Mary his wife of a moiety of the manors of Middleton and Radcliffe (or Radcliffe Tower), and a moiety of 220 messuages, three water-mills, a fulling-mill, gardens, lands, rents, and views of frankpledge in Middleton, Pilsforth, Thornham, Ainsworth, Great Lever, Little Lever, Birtle with Hopwood, Prestwich, &c., also of the advowsons of Middleton and Radcliffe; Pal. of Lanc. Feet of F. bdle. 375, m. 153. In 1779 the duchy received a rent of £1 11s. 10d. for Middleton from Harbord Harbord; Duchy of Lanc. Rentals, bdle. 14, no. 25 m.

The other moiety of the estate was in 1771 settled by Sir Thomas Egerton and Eleanor his wife; ibid. bdle. 385, m. 246.

⁷³ The land tax returns of 1787 show that Lord Suffield owned practically all the land, except Langley; returns at Preston. For the pedigree see G.E.C. *Complete Peerage*, vii, 299. Sir Harbord Harbord (formerly Morden), 2nd baronet of Gunton, Norfolk, was created Lord Suffield in 1786 and died in 1810. His son William Assheton Harbord succeeded, but died in 1821 without issue, when a younger brother, Edward Harbord, followed. 'His lordship frequently visited Middleton, and occasionally manifested a kind regard to the indigent of the place'; E. Butterworth, *Middleton*, 18. He died in 1835 from injuries sustained by falling from his horse on Constitution Hill. His son Edward Vernon Harbord succeeded, and being without issue sold the Lancashire manors and estates.

There was a recovery of the manor in 1814, Lord Suffield and Edward Harbord being vouches; Pal. of Lanc. Assize R. 7, Lent 54 Geo. III, rot. 12.

⁷⁴ Baines, *Lancs.* (ed. 1868), i, 469. Some half-dozen Middleton deeds in the possession of Sir S. Morton Peto, bart., were transcribed by Canon Raines in 1855; see his MSS. (Chet. Lib.), xxxi, 57.

⁷⁵ Baines, ut sup.

⁷⁶ Ibid. (ed. Croston), ii, 410.

⁷⁷ Rev. T. Corser's notes to James's *Iter Lancastrense* (Chet. Soc. vii), 31.

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round two spacious courts, and was approached by bridges over a moat. The great entrance was described about the year 1770 as 'resembling a ship turned upside down,' from which it appears that it had rested on crucks.⁷⁸

In 1840 and later the manor courts continued to be held annually for the appointment of constables for the several townships in the manor and parish.⁷⁹

LANGLEY, on the north-west of Middleton, gave its name to a family which occurs from time to time till the 15th century.⁸⁰ Cardinal Langley and the Langleys of Agecroft, lords of Prestwich and Pendlebury, are supposed to have belonged to it. At Lang-

ley the local family was succeeded by a branch of the Radcliffes;⁸¹ by sale and descent it passed to the Wrigleys⁸² and Ferrabees. In 1846 it was purchased by James Collinge of Oldham.⁸³ The hall was pulled down in 1886.⁸⁴

It appears from the inquisitions that many of the neighbouring families held land in Middleton, but the position of the holdings is not given.⁸⁵ 'Hebers,' an estate of 26 acres, &c., then lately inclosed from the waste, was in 1611 held of the king by knight's service by Edmund Hopwood of Hopwood.^{85a} Boarshaw was the home of a yeoman family named Jones; one of them, Thomas Jones, was Protestant

⁷⁸ Rev. F. R. Raines's notes to *Nicholas Assheton's Journal* (Chet. Soc. xiv), 70. A sculptured chimney-piece from the hall is now in possession of the Middleton Corporation, and some of the panelling is at Turton Tower.

⁷⁹ E. Butterworth, loc. cit.

⁸⁰ William de Langley ('Longeley') attested a Hopwood charter in 1302. William son of William de Langley was in 1313 called upon by Roger de Middleton to defend his title to certain lands; De Banco R. 199, m. 124. The same name occurs in the Subsidy Roll of 1332, and as witness to another Hopwood charter in 1347. In 1388-9 Thomas son of William de Langley sold lands in Hopwood to Geoffrey de Hopwood; Hopwood D. In 1466 Thomas Langley of Essex sold the estate to James Radcliffe of Langley; Raines in *Notitia Cestr.* ii, 99.

The homage and service of Robert son of Ellis del Holt and heirs for tenements held of Sir Geoffrey de Chetham in land called Langley was transferred to Roger de Middleton about 1270; Dods. MSS. cxlii, fol. 129b.

⁸¹ James Radcliffe of Langley in 1492 granted to feoffees his 'manor of Langley,' and all his lands in Middleton and Manchester, for the use of Owen (Ewan) Radcliffe, his bastard son, and heirs male; in default, for Margaret Radcliffe, his bastard daughter, for life, and then for Richard Radcliffe of Radcliffe and his heirs. In 1496 accordingly the feoffees gave the estate to Owen Radcliffe, with remainder to Margaret then wife of William Urms-ton; Towneley MS. CC. no. 637.

About 1524 Isabel, Agnes, and Elizabeth Radcliffe, daughters of Roger Radcliffe, the brother of Richard above named, claimed 'Langley's Thing in Middleton' in virtue of the above feoffment, Owen and Margaret being dead; *Duchy Plead.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), ii, 250. Their contention was that Owen had only a life interest, but the above-cited deed shows that that was erroneous. He seems to have left male issue. A settlement of an estate in Middleton, Manchester, &c., was made in 1535; Pal. of Lanc. Feet of F. bde. 11, m. 71. This seems to have been transferred by Owen to Richard Radcliffe in 1547; *ibid.* bde. 13, m. 227. Vane (Evan or Owen) Radcliffe was buried at Middleton, 15 Mar. 1547-8. Richard Radcliffe of Langley married Elizabeth daughter of James Gerard of Ince; *Visit.* of 1567 (Chet. Soc.), 81. He died 2 May 1577, holding a capital messuage in Middleton called the hall of Langley, and messuages, &c., in Middleton and Siddal of the lord of Middleton in socage, by a rent of 20d. for all services. He also held messuages and lands in Bolton and Spotland. In 1564 the estate in Marland, Castleton, and Spotland had been settled

upon him and his son and heir Owen, who at his father's death was about thirty-six years of age; Duchy of Lanc. Inq. p.m. xii, no. 19. Another settlement was made in 1575; Pal. of Lanc. Feet of F. bde. 37, m. 10.

Owen Radcliffe made a settlement of his estates in Middleton and elsewhere in 1591; they comprised fifty messuages, three dove-cotes, three water-mills, 2,000 acres of land, &c.; Pal. of Lanc. Feet of F. bde. 53, m. 38. He died 30 Sept. 1599, leaving a daughter as heir, Mary, the wife of Gabriel Tedder (Tudor), eighteen years of age; but his brother Edmund succeeded to the Langley estate; Duchy of Lanc. Inq. p.m. xvii, 14. Owen and Edmund Radcliffe were engaged in various suits between 1586 and 1600; *Ducatus Lanc.* (Rec. Com.), iii, 176, 245, 247, 425. Further details of the family and its property are given in the inquisition after the death of Edmund Radcliffe in 1604, when Henry, his son and heir, over twenty-two years of age, succeeded; *Lancs. Inq. p.m.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), i, 20-2.

Henry Radcliffe died 15 Dec. 1630, holding the manor of Marland in Rochdale and Langley and other lands in Middleton; the latter were held of Ralph Assheton, lord of Middleton, in socage by a rent of 2s. yearly. Richard, the son and heir, was twenty-seven years of age, and Henry's wife Elizabeth survived him; Duchy of Lanc. Inq. p.m. xxvii, 25. The widow and son joined in the sale of Marland in 1630; Raines MSS. (Chet. Lib.), xxiv, 312.

It appears from the Middleton registers that Elizabeth Radcliffe, the widow, was buried 9 Feb. 1632-3, and that Richard Radcliffe had a number of children; but the Langley estate was sold in 1631 by Gabriel Tudor and Mary his wife to Henry Wrigley of Manchester; Raines, loc. cit. The date given may be erroneous, for in Mr. Earwaker's notice of Henry Wrigley in the *Manch. Ct. Leet Rec.* iv, 186, it is stated that he purchased Chamber Hall in Oldham in 1646 and Langley Hall subsequently.

The Radcliffes of Royton are said to be descendants of the Radcliffes of Langley; there is an unsatisfactory pedigree in the Raines MSS. xiii, 230.

⁸² Several Henry Wrigleys in succession appear to have lived at Langley at the end of the 17th and beginning of the 18th centuries. Henry son of Henry Wrigley of Langley entered Brasenose College, Oxford, in 1675, aged nineteen, and was afterwards of Gray's Inn; Foster, *Alumni.* Henry Wrigley of Langley was buried at Middleton, 21 Mar. 1709-10.

Henry Wrigley son of Henry Wrigley, deceased, entered St. John's College, Cambridge, in 1715; M.A. 1722; B.D. 1729.

He was fellow (and tutor) 1722-45, being presented by the college to the rectory of Cockfield in Suffolk in 1743. He died in 1766; Scott, *Admissions St. John's C. ii*, 218, lxxxviii.

⁸³ On the Rev. Henry Wrigley's death Langley became the estate of his sister Mary, by whose will (dated 1779) it passed to her nephew Henry Ferrabee, son of her sister Elizabeth and Michael Ferrabee, rector of Rolleston. They had been married in 1740; she was living in 1751, but died before her brother. Henry Ferrabee had several sons; one of them, Michael, was in possession in 1804, but died before 1807, leaving an infant son who died unmarried in 1823. The estate then became divisible among a number of co-heirs. For the deeds see Raines MSS. (Chet. Lib.), xxiii, 505-9. It was sold in 1846 for £30,000 to James Collinge, of Oldham; Raines in *Notitia, ut supra*. The owner in 1886 was Robert Ascroft, sometime M.P. for Oldham; he died in 1899.

⁸⁴ *Oldham Notes and Gleanings*, iii, 214. A plaster shield with the arms of a branch of the Radcliffe family was preserved and presented to the Technical School, Middleton; Dean, *Historical Middleton*, 37.

⁸⁵ Thomas de Chetham, who died in 1383, held land in Middleton 'of the heirs of Geoffrey de Chadderton' in socage by a rent of $\frac{1}{2}$ d. yearly; Towneley MS. DD, no. 1463. In 1615 the land was held of Richard Assheton of Middleton in socage; *Lancs. Inq. p.m.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), ii, 17.

Robert Langley of Agecroft held land in Middleton, as part of his Oldham estate, of the king (Henry VIII); and Robert Heywood of Bury held of Langley, by a rent of 6d.; Duchy of Lanc. Inq. p.m. vi, 7; vii, 29. In Elizabeth's reign, Adam Crompton of Farnworth held of the lord of Manchester, and Richard Smethurst held of the lord of Bury, while Christopher Tonge of Tonge held of Richard Assheton of Middleton; *ibid.* xvi, 18; xvii, 74; xviii, 14.

Francis Pulteney, by his will of 1546, left his Lancashire lands—in Royton, Butterworth, and Middleton—to Michael Pulteney, his son and heir; Ct. of Wards and Liveries, Box 146 H, no. 1.

Richard Bury died at Middleton in 1614, holding lands there of Sir Richard Assheton, deceased, in socage, by 14d. rent. His heir was his grandson Richard Bury, son of Thomas, and then twenty-five years of age; *ibid.* ii, 249. See also the account of Birtle.

For a dispute as to a fulling-mill in Middleton in 1601 see *Ducatus Lanc.* (Rec. Com.), iii, 437.

^{85a} *Lancs. Inq. p.m.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), i, 206.

Archbishop of Dublin from 1605 to 1619, and ancestor of the Viscounts Ranelagh.⁸⁶

Early in the reign of Henry VIII disputes broke out respecting the boundaries of the manors of Middleton and Bury, which were much intermingled, and a commission was issued to determine them.⁸⁷

Formerly the government of the **BOROUGH** place was in the hands of the constables chosen at the manor court held in May. An Improvement Act for Middleton and Tonge was passed in 1861;⁸⁸ these townships had long been treated as forming one town, though in different parishes. In 1886 a charter of incorporation was granted,⁸⁹ and the town is governed by a council composed of a mayor, six aldermen, and eighteen councillors, six for each of the wards—North, South, and West—into which the borough has been divided. The corporation own the gasworks, which were established in 1847 and transferred to the town in 1861.⁹⁰ Water is supplied by the Heywood and Middleton Water Board.⁹¹ The town has a commission of the peace; the police station, with court room, was built in 1873. The corporation have established a free library,⁹² built in 1888, a small park, public baths, and a fire brigade. A cemetery was formed in 1861.

Lord Suffield in 1791 procured a charter for holding a weekly market on Friday and three annual fairs; he also erected a market-house and shambles, taken down in 1851. The charter was for a long time practically useless; in 1840 there was no market held on Friday, and the business done on Saturday was trivial. At that time also the fairs were scarcely observed; the times fixed were the first Thursdays after 10 March and 15 April, and the second Thursday after 29 September.⁹³ A monthly fair was established in 1862.

To minister to the largely increased population many places of worship have in recent times been erected. In connexion with the Church of England Holy Trinity, Parkfield, was consecrated in 1862; the rector of Middleton is the patron.⁹⁴

The Wesleyans 'originally met for devotion in a chapel at Back of the Brow, where they continued till about 1788, when they removed to a chapel at the bottom of Barrowfields.'⁹⁵ This was followed in 1805 by a chapel in Wood Street, represented by the present one in Long Street, built in 1901. There is another chapel at Rhodes. The Primitive Methodists appeared in 1821 at Middleton, and at Rhodes in 1835; they have also a chapel at Bowlee. The New Connexion held meetings in 1804, and though they erected a chapel at Barrowfields, became extinct in a

few years. The Wesleyan Association held meetings in 1837, but failed; subsequently work was resumed, and as the United Free Church the body has chapels in the town and at Hebers.

The Countess of Huntingdon's Connexion used the abandoned New Connexion chapel in 1815, but in 1824 built St. Stephen's in High Street.

The Congregationalists held meetings as early as 1818, and used the New Connexion chapel for some years, with varying success, and at last in 1836 built Providence Chapel; this was replaced by the present building in 1860. A division in the congregation occurred in 1866, and Salem Chapel, built in 1855 by secessionists from the Countess of Huntingdon's Connexion, was acquired and continues in use.⁹⁶

The Baptists have a chapel, dating from 1862.

The Swedenborgians first met in a cottage in 1801, and in 1832 opened the New Jerusalem Temple in Wood Street; they have another at Rhodes, begun in 1861.

The Unitarians in 1825 unsuccessfully tried to form a congregation. Their present church originated in services in the Temperance Hall in 1860.

St. Peter's Roman Catholic school-chapel was built in 1867. There is a house of the Sisters of the Holy Cross and Passion.⁹⁷

PILSWORTH

Pylesworth, 1243; Pilliswrthe, c. 1270.

The township of Pilsworth has an extreme length of more than 3 miles; the area is 1,482½ acres. The surface is undulating, being highest in the centre and on the eastern side, over 400 ft. above sea-level, and lowest along the Roch and the Hollins Brook, which form the boundary on the west and south. There is no village or considerable hamlet in the greater part of the township, but in the north-east is Broadfield, which is becoming a suburb of Heywood. The population in 1901 was not returned separately.

The principal roads meet at Three Lane Ends near the centre. From this point one road goes north-east to Broadfield and Heywood; another, north-west to Heap Bridge and Bury, with a branch turning west and south to Hollins in Unsworth; the third, south-east to Birch and Middleton. The Lancashire and Yorkshire Railway Company's line from Bury to Rochdale crosses the north-east corner and has a station called Broadfield, opened in 1869.

The soil is sandy, with subsoil of clay; wheat and potatoes are grown, and there is pasture. There are bleach works and a cotton-mill.

⁸⁶ Piccope, *Wills* (Chet. Soc.), ii, 225; Thomas Jones was 'kept to learning in Cambridge' at the charge of Richard Jones, rector of Bury. He was consecrated Bishop of Meath in 1584, translated to Dublin in 1605, being made Lord Chancellor of Ireland, and died in 1619. His son, Sir Roger, was created Viscount Ranelagh in 1628.

⁸⁷ *Duchy Plead.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), ii, 239.

⁸⁸ 24 & 25 Vict. cap. 10; amended by 41 & 42 Vict. cap. 162, 42 & 43 Vict. cap. 86, &c.; by these Middleton and Tonge were amalgamated and (in 1879) Alkington and parts of Hopwood and Thornham were added. Particulars

of the Acts are given in the Corporation's *Tear Bk.* which the town clerk, Mr. F. Entwisle, has supplied to the editors.

⁸⁹ Dated 21 July 1886. Parts of the townships of Great and Little Heaton were added in 1891.

⁹⁰ Under the Act of 1847 a joint-stock company owned the gasworks; a new company was formed under an Act in 1851; 9 & 10 Vict. cap. 8; 17 & 18 Vict. cap. 1.

⁹¹ The water-supply was formerly in the hands of a private company, owning the Heywood waterworks, then of the Heywood Corporation, and since 1898 by the Heywood and Middleton Water Board, consisting of six members from each borough; 61 & 62 Vict. cap. 240.

⁹² An account of the opening, with a view, is contained in *Oldham Notes and Gleanings*, iii, 192. There are also reading-rooms at the Co-operative Hall in Long Street, Bowlee, and Rhodes.

⁹³ These details are from E. Butterworth's *Middleton* (ed. 1840), and the Middleton and Tonge Industrial Society's *Jubilee Handbook* (1900).

⁹⁴ A district was assigned to it in 1863; *Lond. Gaz.* 24 Mar.

⁹⁵ This and other information as to the Nonconformists' chapels is taken from E. Butterworth, op. cit. 31.

⁹⁶ Nightingale, *Lancs. Nonconf.* v, 275-9.

⁹⁷ Kelly, *Engl. Cath. Missions*, 277.

A HISTORY OF LANCASHIRE

There were thirty-eight hearths liable to the hearth tax in 1666; the largest dwelling was that of Dorothy Lomax with five.⁹⁸

By a re-arrangement of boundaries made in 1894, Pilsworth has ceased to exist as a separate township, being divided among Heywood, Bury, and Unsworth.⁹⁹

In 1770 a festival called a 'guild' was held at Pilsworth; a procession and a musical performance were the chief features of the programme.¹⁰⁰

There does not appear ever to have been a manor of Pilsworth.¹⁰¹ The chief residences were those called Meadowcroft Fold,¹⁰² long the habitation of a Wolstenholme family, and Lomax's, so-called from the family dwelling there,¹⁰³ ancestors of the Grimshaw Lomaxes of Great Harwood. There are but few references to it among the ancient deeds available.¹⁰⁴

The Commonwealth surveyors in 1650 recommended that a church should be built at the End of Streethough in Pilsworth, but nothing was done.¹⁰⁵

HOPWOOD

Hoppewode, 1292; Eppewode, Oppewode, 1302; Hopwode, 1332.

The township of Hopwood, about 2 miles square, has an area of 2,126 acres. The surface is comparatively level; the highest point, about 460 ft., is near Siddal Moor, on the western border, from which the ground falls away to the south. Near the eastern border, a brook runs south to join the Irk at Middleton, passing through a little wooded valley, in which Hopwood Hall and its park are situated. Birch lies

in the south-east corner. On the north the town of Heywood has spread into Hopwood, a considerable suburb having grown up. Gooden is situated here. The population in 1901 was not given separately.

The principal roads are those from Middleton and from Rhodes through Birch to Heywood, meeting in the suburb mentioned. The Middleton and Rochdale road passes near and along the eastern border, and has a light railway. Close to it proceed the canal from Manchester to Rochdale and the Lancashire and Yorkshire Company's railway between the same points. Both canal and railway have branches to Heywood crossing the northern end of the township; there is a station at Heywood.

A stone axe-head was found here.

The soil is sand, with subsoil of clay; wheat, oats, and potatoes are grown, and much land is in pasture. There was formerly moss land. There are numerous cotton-mills. A colliery was worked formerly. A large railway-wagon works, an iron foundry, and a brewery are carried on.

There were seventy-three hearths liable to the tax in 1666. The only large houses were those of the squire, viz., the Hall, with fourteen hearths, and Staniccliffe, with six.¹

A local board was formed in 1863;² but part of the township was included in Heywood four years later.³ The remainder was in 1894 divided between Middleton and Rochdale, so that there is no longer a township of Hopwood.⁴

As in the case of other hamlets in the *MANOR* parish, *HOPWOOD* was held of the lord of Middleton by a family adopting the local surname. Little is known of it,⁵ though pedigrees

⁹⁸ Subs. R. bdle. 250, no. 9, Lancs.

⁹⁹ Loc. Govt. Bd. Order 31671. Unsworth has the greater part; Broadfield has been added to Heywood.

¹⁰⁰ E. Butterworth, *Middleton*, 52.

¹⁰¹ It is usually named among the hamlets or appurtenances of the manor of Middleton in inquisitions and settlements of the Assheton family; e.g. *Lancs. Inq. p.m.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), ii, 105. By the partition of the Assheton estates it has descended to the Earl of Wilton. The land tax return of 1789 states that Lord Grey de Wilton was the 'landlord of all Pilsworth.'

¹⁰² For some notice of the Meadowcroft family see the account of Smethurst in *Birtle*.

¹⁰³ One James Lomax, born about 1556 and educated at Cambridge, was reconciled to the Roman Church and went over seas to Douay. Returning as a missionary priest in 1583 he was arrested on landing, and died in prison a year later; Gillow, *Bibl. Dict. of Engl. Cath.* iv, 321.

James Lomax in 1573 purchased land in Middleton from Lawrence Bury, Agnes his wife, Richard the son and heir, and Agnes his wife; Pal. of Lanc. Feet of F. bdle. 35, m. 115. A James Lomax of Pilsworth died in 1623, leaving his son Richard as his heir; but the lands named in the inquisition were in Todmorden; *Lancs. Inq. p.m.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), iii, 441. Richard Lomax of Pilsworth (1759), by his marriage with Rebecca, heiress of John Heywood, acquired the Grimshaws' estate of Clayton Hall in Whalley; Abram's *Blackburn*, 540.

¹⁰⁴ Robert de Hulton about 1260 gave his land in Pilsworth to William de Rad-

cliffe, son of Peter de Pilsworth, for a yearly rent of two pairs of white gloves; and William granted the same to Ellis Moscrop to hold by the same service, due at St. Leonard's feast; Add. MS. 32106, no. 1339, 1271. In the second deed Pilsworth is called a vill, and its liberties, easements, &c. are mentioned; Dods MSS. cxlii, fol. 74.

Ellis Moscrop and Cecily his wife were, in 1292, defendants in a Middleton case respecting land, wood, and mill; Assize R. 408, m. 21 d.

¹⁰⁵ *Commonwealth Ch. Surv.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), 25.

¹ Subs. R. bdle. 250, no. 9, Lancs.

² *Lond. Gaz.* 16 Oct. 1863.

³ 30 & 31 Vict. cap. 64.

⁴ Loc. Govt. Bd. Orders 31671, 31625, 32287. Staniccliffe, Hopwood Hall, and Birch are now in Middleton; Gooden and Siddal in Heywood.

⁵ The earliest known member of it is William de Hopwood, who in 1277 attested a grant by Henry de Lacy, Earl of Lincoln; *Whalley Coucher* (Chet. Soc.), ii, 595. He attested other local charters of about the same time, e.g. *Final Conc.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), i, 218. There was also a William son of William de Hopwood (*ibid.* i, 171), who attested a grant by Thomas de Hopwood in 1302 (Hopwood D.), and may be the William de Hopwood, witness to a Byrom deed of 1305; Byrom Chartul. no. 29/18.

Thomas de Hopwood appears as witness to charters and otherwise from about 1296 to 1330; e.g. *Lancs. Inq. and Extents* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), i, 305; *Mamecestre* (Chet. Soc.), ii, 279. In 1302 Thomas son of William de Hopwood was defen-

dant in a Middleton suit; Assize R. 418, m. 4.

Adam the son and heir of Thomas de Hopwood, by a charter of 1325, granted to John son of Henry de Hulton, and Alice his wife, a rent of 9s. out of his manor of Hopwood, and tenements in Thornton by Chadderton, Clayden, and Manchester; John and Alice recovered the arrears in 1332; De Banco R. 290, m. 86. Adam de Hopwood contributed to the subsidy in 1332, was a juror in 1341, and attested a Byrom deed in the following year; *Exch. Lay Subs.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), 36; *Inq. Non.* (Rec. Com.), 39; Byrom Chartul. no. 13/177. He seems also to have been living in 1359; *Mamecestre*, iii, 454.

Geoffrey son of Thomas de Hopwood appears in 1347 and again in 1388; Hopwood D. Thomas seems to have granted him certain lands in Middleton and Gristlehurst; but Geoffrey was outlawed for felony in 1370 or earlier, and died before 1397, when the executors of his will were called to render account for the lands forfeited; L.T.R. Memo. R. 162, m. 14 d. Four years later another Geoffrey de Hopwood claimed as heir, being son of Thomas son of Adam son of Thomas the grantor; *ibid.* R. 166, m. 118. A John de Hopwood appears from 1374 to 1381; De Banco R. 456, m. 10, &c.

In 1433 an exchange was arranged between Margaret widow of Thomas Hopwood and John the son and heir of Thomas, her dower in the demesnes of Hopwood being replaced by other tenements; Booker, *Prestwich Ch.* 253. A writ of *Diem cl. extr.* after the death of Isabel, widow of John Hopwood, was



HOPWOOD HALL FROM THE SOUTH-EAST

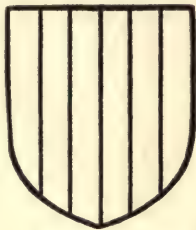
A HISTORY OF LANCASHIRE

Colonel Edward Robert Gregge-Hopwood, born in 1846.¹⁶

Hopwood Hall is situated in a hollow on the high ground between Middleton and Rochdale about a



GREGGE. Or three trefoils slipped between two chevronels sable.



HOPWOOD. Pale of six argent and vert.

mile directly north of the former town. It is a picturesque two-story brick building on a stone base, set round a small quadrangle, with the entrance on the north side and the principal front facing south. Though usually stated to belong to the Tudor period there is nothing in the house as it stands at present to suggest a date earlier than the first part of the 17th century; but it is possible that some of the brickwork in the south front may be before this time. The original arrangement seems to have been that the house was built round four sides of a courtyard about 60 ft. long from west to east and 30 ft. from north to south, with the great hall in the south range opposite to the entrance. In later rebuildings this first arrangement has been followed to some extent, but the hall has disappeared, and corridors have encroached on the quadrangle on two sides, reducing its size to about 50 ft. by 24 ft., and the plan is now that of a suite of living rooms on all four sides of the central space, with a large western servants' wing added in later times. The older parts are constructed with small 2 in. bricks, in contrast to much of the later work, but both the older and later buildings are of more than one date.

Architecturally the house has little distinction, the picturesque effect of the exterior from the south-east being produced by the gables and bay windows and by the pleasant colour of the red bricks and grey stone roofs, in a setting of foliage and relieved with ivy. The many well-designed brick chimneys, mostly with circular shafts, are also a good feature in the view of the house from this side. The north front is uninteresting, a general sense of flatness prevailing, though the elevation is an evenly balanced one with a wide six-light mullioned and transomed window at each side of the central archway, and three windows of six lights above. The entrance to the quadrangle is under a segmental arch with moulded jambs and label over terminating in an upturned volute, a detail repeated on the window-heads on this side, and towards the court. The original north wing is 60 ft. in length, the west wing having apparently been originally set back; but at a later time this has been rebuilt and brought into line with the north front, making a total unbroken line of frontage of over 80 ft. under one roof. The quadrangle itself now serves only to light the rooms and corridors, the entrances to the house being by doorways on either side of the main gateway, which is 10 ft. wide, and accessible only from the servants' wing either through the dining-

room and smoke-room, or by going round the corridor on the south and east sides. To the east of the gateway is the entrance hall, and the range of apartments known as the saloon, library, drawing-room, oak room, and boudoir occupies the east and south wings, the dining-room being in the west wing. The north wing and the main part of the south wing are apparently of 17th-century date, but in nearly all cases the stonework of the windows has been cemented and painted over and all detail lost, the mullions and jambs to the bay window of the oak room in the south front alone having been left untouched. They are, however, in a very crumbling and decayed state. On the east wing is a very good angle lead head with the date 1690 and the initials of John and Elizabeth Hopwood, but it is not in its original position, and to what part of the house the date refers is not clear. The south-east corner of the building (now the library) appears to have been erected in the 18th century, apparently in 1755, which date is on a spout head, and similar spout heads without the date but with a hart tripping, are in other parts of the building. A copy of an old drawing of the house now at the Hall shows this angle as first built with chamfered quoins, flat sash windows and hipped roof, and a low wing between it and the bay window on the east end of the north range. This low wing gave place some time in the last century to the lofty building with stone battlements and large mullioned and transomed windows of nine lights which is now the distinguishing feature of the east side of the house. In recent times also new stone mullioned bay windows have been substituted for the original sashes in the 18th-century portion, and a great stone bay window with three transoms has been added to the drawing-room in the south front, going up the full height of the room, which is equal to the two stories of the rest of the house; it replaces a former wooden bay of less height. Nearly all the distinguishing features of the south and east elevations are modern. The interior also is largely modernized, but contains two good oak staircases, one in the east corridor and the other at the west end of the south wing, both having square newels terminating in the Hopwood crest (an eagle's head, out of a coronet, holding in its beak a trefoil). The walls of the principal rooms are panelled with 18th-century oak panelling, and the house contains a great deal of oak furniture, the greater part of which, however, has been collected in modern times. The corridors go round the south and east sides of the quadrangle on the first floor as below, and the bedroom over the oak room on the south side retains its original oak panelling. At the end of the south corridor on the ground floor is an angle nook nearly 6 ft. deep, with a good stone fireplace in which are carved the arms of Hopwood impaling a coat of eight quarters with the Hopwood crest and another, a hart tripping, the motto 'By degrees,' and the initials and date F G, 1658. The same date and initials occur on a stone fireplace in the boudoir, a small room in the south wing, but their claim to belong to Hopwood Hall in the 17th century is not clear, they having possibly been brought here by the Gregges from another place at a later date.

STANICLIFFE was an estate of the Knights Hospitallers,¹⁷ held in 1612 by Edmund Hop-

¹⁶ Foster, *Lancs. Pedigrees*.

¹⁷ Lands in Middleton were among the

Hospitallers' possessions in 1292; *Plac. de Quo Warr.* (Rec. Com.), 375.

By a charter of the earlier part of the 13th century, Syherit eldest daughter of

wood.¹⁸ Siddal¹⁹ and Gooden are other parts of Hopwood; the latter gave a surname to the possessors.²⁰

In or near Hopwood was a wood called Hawkshaw;²¹ the name appears to be lost.

At Stancliffe there was an ancient chapel.²² In connexion with the Church of England, St. Mary's, Birch, was erected in 1828; the rector of Middleton is the patron.²³ The mission church of St. John lies within the borough of Heywood.

There are also chapels for the Wesleyan, Primitive, and United Free Methodists.

THORNHAM

Thornham, 1243; Tornetun, c. 1230, 1335.

Thornham appears to have been called Thornton also. It measures about 1½ miles from north to south, by about 2 miles across. The area is 1,936 acres. Tandle Hill, the highest point of the hilly surface, nearly 700 ft., is central; there are good views from the summit; the surface descends from it all round, but more particularly towards the south-west, where the level is under 400 ft. The population in 1901 was not returned separately.

The road from Middleton to Rochdale, along which

runs a light railway, passes along the western border, having the hamlets of Slattocks and Trub Smithy, formerly Smithy Ford, upon it. Near the eastern border the road from Oldham to Rochdale passes through, having the hamlets of Thornham Hill, Gravel Hole, and Buersill Head upon or near it. There are three cross roads connecting the former roads. Thornham Fold is a hamlet near the centre of the township, and Stake Hill lies to the south-east of Slattocks. The railway and canal from Manchester to Rochdale both cross the extreme south-west corner.

The soil is sandy with a subsoil of clay; the chief crops are wheat and pasture. There is abundance of good coal, and a colliery at Hanging Chadder. Fustian cutting is carried on. At Stake Hill there are bleach works.

In 1666 there were fifty-four hearths assessed to the hearth tax; James Hilton's house had six.¹

Thornham has ceased to exist as a township since 1894, when it was divided between Middleton, Royton, and Rochdale.²

As in the case of Pilsworth, there does *MANOR* not seem to have been a manor of *THORNHAM*, the hamlet being held as part of the manor of Middleton.³ Joseph Milne, in 1862, purchased from Peto and Betts the estate formerly belonging to Lord Sheffield, as heir of the Assheton family, comprising nearly the whole of the land.⁴

Sir Richard de Stancliffe (Stancliffe), in her widowhood gave to Alan de Middleton all her land in Stancliffe and any that might revert to her there, for a rent of two white gloves; Sir Robert de Middleton was a witness; Hopwood D. To the same Alan grants in the vill of Thornton made by his father Roger and brother Robert were confirmed by the superior lord, Roger de Montbegon; *ibid.* Adam son of Walter, and Godith daughter of Richard de Stancliffe, granted to Richard de Hulton the third part of Stancliffe 'to hold in frankalmoin of God and the house of St. John's Hospital of Jerusalem, rendering yearly to the said Hospital 16*d.* of silver at the Nativity of St. Mary;' Brother Alexander of the hospital was a witness; *ibid.* Roger de Stancliffe and Syherit de Stancliffe sold to Roger the Carpenter the chief messuage, two parts of a croft belonging to it, and the twelfth part of all Stancliffe, to hold as above, rendering 4*d.* a year to the hospital; Roger de Middleton and W. the Clerk his son were witnesses; *ibid.*

¹⁸ In the inquisition already cited it is stated that he held messuages and lands in Stancliffe 'of the King as of the late priory of St. John of Jerusalem in England' in socage, by 4*s.* yearly rent—this agreeing with the rents of 16*d.* for a third and 4*d.* for a twelfth part of the charter given in the preceding note.

Sarah Hopwood, one of the daughters of Edmund Hopwood, lived at Stancliffe; her will, made in 1642 and proved in 1664, abounds in family names. She was buried at Middleton 18 Jan. 1644.

¹⁹ Lands in Sydal or Siddal and Middleton were included in the Kersal cell estate purchased in 1548 by Ralph Kenyon; *Pal. of Lanc. Feet of F. bdlie.* 13, m. 152. The place is also named among the lands of Richard Assheton of Middleton in 1619; *Lancs. Inq. p.m.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), ii, 105, 107.

²⁰ In 1292, and again in 1302, Thomas de Hopwood released to his brother Alan all claim on lands in Gooden (Guldene); Hopwood D.

In the latter year William son of Hugh de Gooden (Guledene) made a claim for common of pasture in Middleton, but did not proceed; the defendants were Peter de Heywood and his sons, and in the second case Thomas son of William de Hopwood; *Assize R.* 408, m. 5; 418, m. 4. Eight years later, Alice widow of William de Gooden claimed dower in a messuage, 12 acres of land, 6 acres of meadow, and 12 acres of wood in Middleton; Thomas de Hopwood, the defendant, replied that her husband was not seised of the tenement as of fee on the day he married her or afterwards; *De Banco R.* 183, m. 132.

Adam de Hopwood in 1333 granted to Agnes daughter of Alan de Hopwood and her heirs all her father's lands in Gooden in the town of Middleton, with common rights in Thornham, Pilsworth, and Hawkshaw, for the rent of a rose yearly; Hopwood D. Agnes, as widow of William son of Henry de Heywood, in 1347 granted all her lands in Gooden to Geoffrey son of Thomas de Hopwood; *ibid.*

Ten years later John de Stackhill and Agnes his wife granted to Geoffrey son of John del Holt all their lands in Gooden in Middleton for his life; *Agecroft D.* 338.

At the end of the 17th century Gooden (Goulden) was owned by James Holt of Stubble; *Manch. Free Library D.* no. 106, 110, 112, 116. His predecessor, Robert Holt of Stubble, died in 1561, holding messuages, &c., in Middleton of Richard Assheton of Middleton in socage; *Duchy of Lanc. Inq. p.m.* xi, 15. Earlier still, in 1388, Robert son of Geoffrey del Holt held lands in Middleton; *Final Conc.* iii, 31.

Two messuages 'called Golden' were

in 1538 held by Ralph Bury of Sir Richard Ashton of Middleton; *Duchy of Lanc. Inq. p.m.* viii, no. 24. Richard Bury of Gooden was a freeholder in 1600; *Misc.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), i, 248. Richard Bury died in 1614; in his will are named his children Joseph, Deborah, and Richard. The will of John Bury, made about the same time, speaks of Richard Bury 'heir of Gooden.'

The Goulden or Gooden family occur in other townships; they had land in Bamford in 1282; *Final Conc.* i, 157.

²¹ It is mentioned in a Hopwood Charter cited above. In 1292 David de Hulton was nonsuited in his claim against Roger de Middleton and Thomas de Heaton for partition of a wood in 'Haukeshogh'; *Assize R.* 408, m. 36*d.*

²² E. Butterworth in 1839 wrote:—'According to tradition there was once a chapel here, but this is unlikely; yet it might be a small oratory for the tenantry of Hopwood;' *Middleton*, 51. Canon Raines a little later says:—'Stancliffe is a timber and plaster house, having a private chapel;' *Notitia Cestr.* ii, 101.

²³ E. Butterworth, *ut supra*. The chapelry was constituted in 1842; *Lond. Gaz.* 27 Sept.

¹ Subs. R. bdlie. 250, no. 9, Lancs.

² Loc. Govt. Bd. Orders 31625, 32287. Trub Smithy and Buersill Head are now in Castleton; Slattocks, Thornham Fold, and Stake Hill, in Middleton; Gravel Hole, Hanging Chadder, and Thorncliffe, in Royton.

³ It is so named, e.g. in 1619 in the inquisition after the death of Richard Assheton of Middleton; *Lancs. Inq. p.m.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), ii, 105.

Sir H. Harbord paid four-fifths of the land tax in 1787; *Returns at Preston*.

⁴ Baines, *Lancs.* (ed. 1868), i, 481; the area was 1,794½ acres. Mr. Milne died in 1898, and his trustees are the present lords.

A HISTORY OF LANCASHIRE

Hanging Chadder⁶ and Stakehill⁶ gave names to their possessors in the 14th century.

The Parliamentary Commissioners, in 1650, recommended that a church should be erected at the tithe barn in Thornham,⁷ but no further steps were taken. In connexion with the Established Church the school chapel of St. James, Gravel Hole, and the old school are used for service.⁸

Near the same place is a chapel of the Wesleyan Methodists.

The Roman Catholic Church of St. Gabriel and the Angels, Trub Smithy, on the border of Castleton, was built in 1884.⁹

BIRTLE-WITH-BAMFORD

Brithull, 1243; Birkil, 1246; Birkhill, 1334, 1573; Birtle has become the usual spelling, but Bircle appears in the Manchester Diocesan *Directory*.

Baumford, Baumford, 1330.

The main portion of this scattered township lies about 5 miles north north-west of Middleton Church. It is separated from the central portion of the parish by the township of Heap in Bury, with which it is much intermixed, having no fewer than five detached portions to the south, east, and north. Birtle hamlet, near which is Sillinghurst, is in the western half of the main part of the township; much of Bamford lies in Heap. The area is 1,429 acres,¹ of which Birtle has 1,200. The surface is hilly; the highest portion of the main part of the township, over 800 ft. above sea-level, lies on the northern side. The population in 1901 was 1,447.

Two roads cross it from south to north, leading from the road between Bury and Rochdale, which passes through the south-east corner of the main part.

The soil is loam, with stone below; the land is chiefly in pasture. Bleaching, dyeing, and paper-making are carried on. In Bamford are large woollen and cotton factories. There are several stone quarries, and coal-mining was formerly carried on.

In 1882 Cobhouse Farm in Walmersley and Diggles in Heap were added to Birtle-with-Bamford.² A number of changes were made in 1894; the township was greatly extended by the inclusion of a part of Heap and the whole of Ashworth; parts of it were cut off and included in Heywood, Bury, and Walmersley.³

In 1666 there were fifty-six hearths liable to the tax. The only large house was that of Holt of Gristlehurst, with thirteen hearths.⁴

Castle Hill and Gallows Hill adjoin each other in Birtle proper.^{5a}

The township is governed by a parish council.

There does not seem to have been at *MANORS* any time a manor of *BIRTLE*, the land being held in parcels of the lord of Middleton.^{6a} The local surname was at one time in use, for in 1246 Roger de Birtle, whose tenement was said to be in Bury, complained that Geoffrey de Middleton had raised a mill-pool to his injury and to the injury of Adam de Bury. Adam's claim was rejected by the jury, but they admitted Roger's, for the course of the water had been altered so that the water laid waste his land. They at first ordered that the old state of things should be restored, but the parties having agreed, they ordered that Geoffrey should pay half a mark yearly to Roger, and leave the mill-pool as it was.^{6b}

The Bury family in the 16th century held part of Birtle.^{7a}

The most prominent residents were the Holts of *GRISTLEHURST*,^{8a} who were in possession in the

⁶ Land in this place belonged to the church of Middleton, as may be seen in the charter quoted in the account of the parish church.

Adam de Hindley and Joan his wife, in 1313, claimed the latter's dower in Middleton against Robert son of Roger de Middleton, and John de Hanging Chadder; De Banco R. 201, m. 2. Richard de Hanging Chadder contributed to the subsidy, 1332; *Exch. Lay Subs.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), 36.

Messuages and land there, held of the lord of Middleton, belonged in 1612 to the Hopwoods of Hopwood; *Lancs. Inq. p.m.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), i, 204, 207.

A family named Jones was long resident at Hanging Chadder. There is an account of the family in *Notitia Cestr.* ii, 102 n. Henry Jones, by will in 1678, was a benefactor to the poor. Edmund Jones in 1696 names his son Richard in his will; and Richard Jones, whose will was proved in 1722, names his son Edmund. There were also Fittons there and at Snipe Lache in Thornton.

⁶ In 1330 John de Stakull and Agnes his wife released to Geoffrey son of John de Holt all right in lands in Stakehill in the vill of Middleton for the term of John's life; Agecroft D. 336. See the account of Gooden in Hopwood.

Henry de Stakehill contributed to the subsidy in 1332; *Exch. Lay Subs.* 36.

Roger Holt of Bridge Hall in Heap held in 1594 two messuages in Middleton called 'Starkhull'; Duchy of Lanc. Inq. p.m. xvi, 6.

John son of Henry de Stakehill in 1338

granted Whitaker in the hamlet of Thornham to his brother Adam, and Adam four years afterwards granted all his lands in Thornham to Sir John de Byron; Harl. MS. 2112.

⁷ *Commonw. Ch. Surv.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), 24.

⁸ See *Endorsed Char. Rep.* for Middleton, 1901, p. 31.

⁹ The mission was founded in 1879; Kelly, *Engl. Cath. Missions*, 119.

¹ The census of 1901 gives 2,410 acres, including 17 of inland water; this is the area after the changes made in 1882 and 1894.

² Divided Parishes Act. Cobhouse is a detached part of Walmersley lying within the northerly detached part of Birtle. Diggles lies to the east of Dixon Fold, in the detached part of Bamford.

³ Loc. Govt. Bd. Order 31671. The effect of these changes has been to abolish the old fragmentary condition of the township.

⁴ Subs. R. bdle. 250, no. 9, Lancs.

^{5a} The story that the manor court for Tottington fee was formerly held here appears in Aikin, *Country round Manch.* 269.

^{6a} The fact that Birtle-with-Bamford and Heap have a number of detached portions is probably due to that 'common of pasture,' shared by the tenants of Bury and Middleton, which is named in the Inq. p.m. of Roger de Middleton in 1324; Inq. p.m. 16 Edw. II, 49.

Birtle was an original constituent of the manor of Middleton, but the portion of Bamford held by Richard Assheton in 1612

was found to belong to the lordship of the Earl of Derby; *Lancs. Inq. p.m.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), ii, 105, 107. Some account of Bamford will be found under Heap in Bury.

In a fine of 1592 respecting a messuage and lands in Cobballs, Elbight (now Elbutt), and Birtle, Richard Holland and Ralph Assheton were plaintiffs and the Earl of Derby and Richard Assheton (lords respectively of Bury and Middleton) were defendants; Pal. of Lanc. Feet of F. bdle. 54, m. 25.

^{6b} Assize R. 404, m. 7 d.

Thomas son of Adam de Birkhill did not prosecute a claim made in 1334 against Agnes de Middleton, Maud, her daughter, and others; Assize R. 1417, m. 7 d.

^{7a} James Bury held lands in Bury, Middleton, and Tottington; Ralph, his son and heir, was an idiot. On Ralph's death in 1538 it was found that he held a messuage called Birtle (Byrkehill) and two called 'Golden' of Sir Richard Ashton by fealty and a rent of 14*s*. yearly; Duchy of Lanc. Inq. p.m. v, 34; viii, 24.

A messuage and lands in Birtle and Middleton were in 1573 purchased by James Lomas from Lawrence Bury, Agnes his wife, and Richard his son and heir; Pal. of Lanc. Feet of F. bdle. 35, m. 115.

^{8a} Gristlehurst was partly in Middleton and partly in Bury. Thus the mediety of Gristlehurst was granted by Adam de Bury to Thomas de Bamford for a rent of 10*d*.; the bounds included Stockley Clough, Petesdene, Navedene, Kochet, and Taclebrook; Raines MSS. (Chet. Lib.), xi, 113. In 1336 Helewise de Hull granted to



HOPWOOD HALL : DINING-ROOM



HOPWOOD HALL : DRAWING-ROOM

first part of the 15th century, succeeding a family named Wood,^{8b} and in the 16th century acquired large portions of the monastic estates, and flourished^{8c} for a brief period. In 1562 the capital messuage called Gristlehurst was found to be held of Richard Ashton of Middleton in socage, and by the rent of 17d.; part of the land, called Fernhurst, was held of the queen in socage by a rent of 4d., and the rest of the demesne lands, being in Bury, was held of

William Bamford also in socage, by the rent of 18d.⁹ The estate was acquired about 1660 by another branch of the family,¹⁰ and after some descents in this line was conveyed in marriage by Elizabeth daughter and heiress of William Holt to Richard Beaumont of Whitley Beaumont, by whom it was, in 1758, sold to Mr. Milne of Flockton Manor House. It was in 1849 the property of James Fenton of Bamford Hall.¹¹

Robert son of Adam de Bamford all her right in land at Gristlehurst (Gristelyhurst) in the vill of Bury; Raines MSS. (Chet. Lib.), xi, 26. William son of John de Barton in 1367 complained that William son of John del Wood, of Gristlehurst, had caused waste of houses, &c.; De Banco R. 426, m. 285d. In 1370 William del Wood of Gristlehurst attested an Ashworth charter; *ibid.* 265, 261.

Land in Gristlehurst had belonged to Geoffrey de Hopwood, outlawed for felony in or before 1370; L. T. R. Memo. R. 166, m. 118.

^{8b} Gristlehurst 'was obtained before the year 1449 by Ralph Holt, who (according to a curious parchment roll, in my possession, of the time of Henry VII) married Ellen, widow of James Bellairs, who died in France, and daughter and co-heiress of John Sumpter of Colchester, by his wife Margery, daughter and co-heiress of Sir Geoffrey Brockholes, kt. It appears that Geoffrey had married Eleanor, the heiress of Sir John Roos, kt., who inherited large estates in Essex from her mother, Alice, the sole heiress of Sir Robert Asheldam. The property of Sir Geoffrey, which descended to him from his mother Alice, one of the heiresses of Sir Guy de Mancetter, lord of Mancetter, in the county of Warwick, also came to the Holts, which gave them a position and rank not enjoyed by the elder branches of the house'; Canon Raines in *Notitia Cestr.* ii, 100. Nothing is positively known as to the ancestry of Ralph Holt. In 1441 Ralph Holt summoned Thomas and John Kay of Bury, Ralph, John, and Peter Lomax of Heap, and others to answer why they had disseised him of his free tenement in Bury and Middleton—no doubt Gristlehurst. They replied that William Wood, who formerly held it, had enfeoffed Thomas Kay and Richard Lomax; but Ralph claimed by a charter of William's made before that feoffment; Pal. of Lanc. Plea R. 3, m. 19. The roll above referred to was given to the Chetham Library by Canon Raines.

James Holt, the son of Ralph, married before 1481 Isabel, one of the daughters and co-heiress of Gilbert Abram of Abram and Grappenhall, and had certain lands with her; *Final Conc.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), iii, 139; *Duchy Plead.* (same Soc.), i, 39-41; *Dep. Keeper's Rep.* xxxvii, App. 683.

Constance, daughter of James son of Ralph Holt, was in 1477 contracted to marry Oliver Holt of Ashworth; Raines MSS. xi, 273.

With James the pedigree recorded in 1567 begins; *Visit.* (Chet. Soc.), 22. A son of his named Gilbert occurs in 1502; Raines, *op. cit.* 113.

^{8c} James Holt, in the recorded pedigree is stated to have had a son Ralph, father of Sir Thomas Holt of Gristlehurst, who obtained from Henry VIII large grants of the estates of Whalley and

Cockersand Abbeys. In 1542 he obtained the manor of Spotland in Rochdale, with its appurtenances, which had belonged to the former abbey, together with rents from Coleshaw in Chadderton and other lands which had probably belonged to the Hospitallers, for £641 16s. 8d.; Pat. 33 Hen. VIII, pt. 6. During the following year he obtained Stidd, which had also belonged to the Hospitallers; Alt Grange in Ince Blundell, Cronton, and Staining, the property of Whalley; Cunsough in Melling, Forton, Ellel, and other lands which had belonged to Cockersand, the price being £1,727 15s.; Pat. 35 Hen. VIII, pt. 1.

Thomas Holt is noticed in the *Visit.* of 1533 (Chet. Soc. 53). He was made a knight by the Earl of Hertford during the expedition into Scotland in 1544; Metcalfe, *Book of Knights*, 76.

⁹ Duchy of Lanc. Inq. p.m. xi, 46. Sir Thomas died 8 March 1561-2, leaving as heir Francis his son, then aged thirty-eight. The inquisition gives a full list of his lands, and also recites his will dated 1554. By this he left his 'head house or capital messuage called Gristlehurst, with a mease and two mills in the tenure of Thomas Shay; also three cottages on the moor side called Tarkelee [Tack lee] . . . and all such lands and tenements in Bury and Middleton which were taken to be of the demesne lands of the said capital messuage, of the yearly value of £10,' to his wife Dorothy for her life, with remainder to Francis Holt his son and heir and heirs male, and in default to Ralph Holt, his younger son, and heirs male, &c. An annuity was granted to Robert Holt his brother. Another will, made just before his death, is printed in Piccope's *Wills* (Chet. Soc.), i, 131; it concerns chiefly his household stock, &c.; it mentions Thomas the son of Francis his heir, the fourth best gelding being bequeathed to him.

Of Francis Holt little is known. His will, dated 1599 (Raines MSS. vi, 252) was proved in 1604. He made a settlement of his manors of Spotland, &c., in 1578; Pal. of Lanc. Feet of F. bde. 40, m. 137. His son and heir Thomas died in December 1609, leaving as his heir his son Francis, then aged twenty-four. Some of the estates had by this time been sold, but he held the 'manors' of Gristlehurst, Spotland, Forton, and Stidd, and various lands. His father had in 1588 settled the manor of Gristlehurst and messuages, water-mill, fulling-mills, and lands in Gristlehurst, Bury, Middleton, Bamford, Spotland, and Rochdale to the use of himself (Francis) and Ellen his wife, then for Thomas Holt and Francis his son and heir and heirs male; in default, to Thomas and to Edward, younger sons of Francis, &c. Constance, the widow, and Francis, Ralph, John, and Edmund, the sons of Thomas, were living at Gristlehurst in 1610; *Lancs. Inq. p.m.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), i, 157-63. The

manor, &c., of Gristlehurst was held of Sir Richard Assheton of Middleton, in socage; no rent is named.

Francis Holt died 28 September 1617, leaving as heir his son James, then nearly seventeen. By a settlement of 1603 the manor of Gristlehurst had been given to the use of Thomas Holt (the father) during the life of Francis Holt (the grandfather), and then to the use of Katherine Holt, wife of the younger Francis, for life, with remainder to heirs male. Another settlement of 1609 mentions James, William, and Theophilus as sons of the younger Francis. The tenure of Gristlehurst was stated as before; *ibid.* ii, 81-6. For the settlement see also Pal. of Lanc. Feet of F. bde. 75, no. 37. A pedigree was recorded in 1613; *Visit.* (Chet. Soc.), 39.

James Holt died without issue in 1623, and his brother William having died before him, the heir was the younger brother Theophilus, about fourteen years of age; *Lancs. Inq.* (ut sup.), iii, 371-8. No fresh dispositions of the estates appear to have been made by James Holt.

Theophilus Holt, who thus succeeded his brother, died 21 July 1628. His mother Katherine was still living and in possession of Gristlehurst with various messuages and lands, which were to revert to Theophilus and his heirs male, held of Ralph Assheton and others. Alice, the widow, gave birth to a son three weeks after the father's death; he was called Thomas Posthumus; Duchy of Lanc. Inq. p.m. xxvi, 25.

The heir married and had two sons, but they died young, and the father squandered his whole estate, dying in great poverty at Tattenhall in Cheshire in 1679. There is a pedigree of the family in the Piccope MSS. (Chet. Lib.), i, 346. There was published '*A Plant of Paradise*,' being a sermon preached at St. Martin in the Fields at the funeral of John Goodhand Holt, the young son, only child, and hopeful heir of Thomas Holt of Gristlehurst, co. Lanc., Esqr., March 19, 1659, by R. Mossom, minister of St. Peter, Paul's Wharf, London,' with an epistle dedicatory to Thomas and Anne Holt, the mournful parents, &c.; *Pal. Note Bk.* i, 203.

Thomas P. Holt recorded a pedigree at the herald's visitation in 1664-5; Dugdale's *Visit.* (Chet. Soc.), 150.

¹⁰ Alexander Holt, a London goldsmith, was called 'cousin' of Thomas P. Holt, being, it was said, descended from the Gristlehurst family; *Lond. Visit.* 1633 (Harl. Soc.), i, 393; Whitaker, *Whalley*, ii, 23-4; Piccope, *ut sup.*

¹¹ Raines in *Notitia Cestr.* ii, 100; Burke, *Commoners*, ii, 323. About 1750 the estate comprised 127a. 1r. 24p. of pasture land, and 42a. 1r. 20p. of old timber. The purchase was made by Joseph Fenton, the father of James. For the family see Burke's *Landed Gentry*—Fenton of Dutton Manor.

A HISTORY OF LANCASHIRE

Daniel Leach died in 1638 holding a messuage and lands in Birtle of Ralph Assheton of Middleton.¹²

SMETHURST gave a surname to its owners; ¹³ they were succeeded by the Meadowcrofts, who continued to hold it throughout the 16th and 17th centuries.¹⁴

At Castle Hill resided for some time a family named Lomax.¹⁵

The greater part of *BAMFORD* lies within the township of Heap in Bury, but part lies in the detached eastern part of Birtle-with-Bamford.¹⁶ 'Nacfield' in Middleton, perhaps near Nat Bank (now Gnat Bank) in Bamford, with the rent and service of the Earl of Derby, was included in the share of Ralph Standish on a division of the Chaderton estates in 1534.^{16a} Francis Chadwick died in 1622 holding a messuage and land in Bamford of Richard Assheton of Middleton; Edmund his son and heir was about fifteen years of age.¹⁷ Edmund and several other Chadwicks were living in this part of Bamford in 1650.¹⁸ Kenyon Fold commemorates a branch of the Kenyon family which had an estate in Bamford and Crimbles.¹⁹

The land tax return of 1788 shows that the land was much subdivided. The most important contributor was William Bamford, who paid about a tenth part.²⁰

For the worship of the Established Church, St. John the Baptist's, Birtle, was built in 1845, and consecrated the following year; the rector of Middleton has the patronage.²¹

There are Wesleyan and United Free Methodist chapels in Birtle, also a Wesleyan Methodist chapel at Kenyon Fold in Bamford, opened in 1836.

ASHWORTH

Assewrthe, 1236; Hesseworthe, c. 1260; Asschewrth, c. 1270.

Ashworth is a narrow stretch of land lying between Cheesden Brook on the south, Naden Brook on the east, and its tributary, the Oldhouse Brook, on the north. The area is 1,021½ acres. The surface is hilly, rising to 1,000 ft. at one point

¹² Duchy of Lanc. Inq. p.m. xxx, 90. His heirs were his daughters, Elizabeth, wife of Peter Lomax, and Jane, wife of James Carr.

¹³ Henry son of Robert, son of Alice de Smethurst, in 1357 and later made a claim against Roger son of Roger de Pilkington concerning two messuages, 20 acres of land, &c., in Middleton and Bury; Duchy of Lanc. Assize R. 6, m. 3, 1 d. The defence was that the tenement was entirely in Bury, and that Alice had a son Gilbert, elder brother of Robert, who had granted to Henry de Bury, his lord, all his right in Smethurst, 'Falsedchirist,' and Coppedhurst. It was replied that Gilbert had been imprisoned at Smethurst by Henry de Bury, and had only made the grant adduced under that duress; further, that the lands claimed by Henry were in Middleton. Henry de Smethurst gained his case; Assize R. 438, m. 5. Arthur Smethurst the elder made a settlement of an estate in Middleton, Bury, and Manchester in 1568; Pal. of Lanc. Feet of F. bdle. 30, m. 117.

¹⁴ The Meadowcroft family early appear in Middleton. Thomas de Meadowcroft in 1347 complained that various persons had been digging in his quarry at Middleton and otherwise trespassing; De Banco R. 351, m. 27; 352, m. 368. Adam del Meadowcroft was a defendant in 1351; Duchy of Lanc. Assize R. 1, m. v. Geoffrey son of Nicholas de Meadowcroft was charged with waste in Middleton in 1368; De Banco R. 431, m. 168. Robert son of Roger de Meadowcroft was in 1387 found to have enjoyed for a time the profits of lands belonging to John son of Roger de Meadowcroft in Kearsley, and to John son of John de Ainsworth in Middleton; Lancs. Inq. p.m. (Chet. Soc.), i, 27. Roger de Meadowcroft of Middleton, gentleman, was defendant in a plea of trespass by Rose widow of Richard de Bamford in 1441 and 1442; Pal. of Lanc. Plea R. 3, m. 16; 4, m. 6b. Ralph Meadowcroft in 1559 made a settlement of his estate of five messuages, &c., in Bury and Middleton; Pal. of Lanc. Feet of F. bdle. 21, m. 71. Richard Meadowcroft was plaintiff in 1574 in a plea concerning Birtle and other lands; *Ducatus Lanc.* (Rec. Com.), iii, 23.

Francis Meadowcroft of Smethurst was

a freeholder in 1600; *Misc.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), i, 247. In 1622 he contributed in Bury to the subsidy for his 'goods,' while Richard Meadowcroft contributed for 'lands' in Middleton; *ibid.* 161, 158. On a summons of the heralds a pedigree was recorded in 1664, showing three generations: Richard Meadowcroft of Smethurst, d. 1660; s.—Richard, aged 62; s.—Richard, aged 30; Dugdale, *Visit.* (Chet. Soc.), 196. 'Francis Meadowcroft, gent., was living in the year 1702, and having married Alice daughter and co-heiress of James Lomax of Booth Hall, gent., had issue Richard and James, and two daughters.—Pleadings in the Rolls Court, 1702'; Raines in *Notitia Cestr.* ii, 100. It appears that in 1677 Francis Meadowcroft sold or mortgaged to Adam Gaskell 'a demesne called Smethurst, with all the housing and all the conveniences belonging, and the three tenements at Roughhill Street, which in all contains about 55 acres more or less,' situate in Middleton; a place called Bratshey Hill, containing about 12 acres, also in Middleton; and a tenement called Elbutt, under the Earl of Derby, containing about 60 acres; Exch. of Pleas, 29 Chas. II, Mich. m. 5, v, m. 17.

¹⁵ The will of Peter Lomax of Castle Hill, proved in 1712, shows that he had a daughter Jane, wife of Thomas Tipping.

¹⁶ Henry de Bamford in 1292 claimed land and wood and the eighth part of a mill in Middleton against Ellis Moscrop and Cecily his wife; Assize R. 408, m. 21 d. Roger de Bamford in 1363 claimed a messuage in Middleton against John son of John de Ainsworth; De Banco R. 413, m. 100.

Thomas Langley of Agecroft, who died in 1472, had rents of 6d. each from Roger Bamford and Robert de Heywood for lands in Middleton; the latter had the Crimbles; Agecroft D. 80-1.

A number of the deeds of this Bamford family are given briefly among the Birch charters in Harl. MS. 2112, fol. 178b, &c.; some will be found printed in full in Booker, *Didsbury* (Chet. Soc.), 115, &c. Among these are:—A release of actions from Nicholas de Bamford to William de Birches in 1382-3; power of attorney from John Bamford to Richard son of Thomas Bamford to receive lands in Middleton and

Spotland in 1450-1; Martin Bamford in 1478 agreed that his son John should marry Margery sister of Sir Richard Longford (and for Martin see also *Mamecestre*, iii, 482); George Bamford of Holt (in Rusholme) agreed in 1518 that his son John should marry Margaret daughter of Richard Scholefield; John son and heir of George Bamford is named in 1532.

John Bamford of Rusholme, grandson of George, held in 1558 among other properties a messuage, &c., in Middleton called Bamford, of Richard Ashton in socage; Duchy of Lanc. Inq. p.m. xi, no. 61, 38. His infant daughter and heir, Anne, married (1) George Birch of Birch and (2) Francis Duckinfield of Stockport; Earwaker, *East Ches.* ii, 19.

There were claims to the estate made in 1562 and 1565; *Ducatus Lanc.* (Rec. Soc.), ii, 207, 302. In 1580 Thomas Bamford of Leicester claimed as the heir male of Adam Bamford, seised in 1413. The pedigree he adduced stated that Adam had a son Thomas, and he a son John, who was succeeded in turn by his sons Bartholomew, Nicholas, and George; the last-named had a son John, whose son John was the father of Anne, in possession; Duchy of Lanc. Plead. lxii, B 7.

Settlements of the lands were made by George Birch and Anne his wife in 1574 and 1575; Pal. of Lanc. Feet of F. bdle. 36, m. 54; 37, m. 90. For disputes as to the inheritance in Bamford, see *Ducatus Lanc.* iii, 3; and *Lancs. and Ches. Rec.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), ii, 257.

Anne Duckinfield died in 1619 holding '20 acres of pasture in Middleton called Bamfold'; *Lancs. Inq. p.m.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), ii, 178.

^{16a} Raines D. (Chet. Lib.). In 1522 the collector for the Earl of Derby accounted for 16s. 8d. rent from 'Nakfeld' in the parish of Middleton, which had been purchased from John Bamford; Roll in possession of the Earl of Lathom.

¹⁷ Towneley MS. C. 8, 13 (Chet. Lib.), 242.

¹⁸ *Commonw. Ch. Surv.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), 43.

¹⁹ An abstract of the title will be found in Raines MSS. (Chet. Lib.), xxxi, 49, &c.

²⁰ Returns at Preston.

²¹ A district was assigned in 1848; *Lond. Gaz.* 28 April.

near the western end. There is an extensive view from the hill on which the church stands. The population in 1901 was included with that of Birtle.

The principal road is that from Heywood to Edenfield, passing diagonally through the township.

The soil is of loam and clay, with subsoil of clay; the land is mostly in pasture. Stone quarries are worked.

There were only thirty-two hearths—Richard Holt's dwelling having twelve of them—liable to the hearth tax in 1666.¹

The whole of Ashworth was in 1894 added to Birtle-cum-Bamford.²

Like the other hamlets or villis of the *MANOR* parish, *ASHWORTH* was held of the lord of Middleton,³ but part of it was the free alms of Middleton Church.⁴ The earliest deed concerning it is a grant made about 1180–90 by Roger son of Alexander de Middleton to Geoffrey son of Robert the Dean of Whalley of the whole of Ashworth, for the service of 40*d.* yearly for sake fee. Jordan de Ashworth, a witness, was probably the immediate tenant.⁵ In 1236 Robert de Middleton gave the homage of Henry de Whalley for Ashworth to Geoffrey de Chetham.⁶ About the same time Orm son of William de Wardle released to Robert son of Bernard de Ashworth his claim to 4 oxgangs in Ashworth, which he had demanded in the king's court.⁷ Richard son of Adam de Birtle, who held an acre in Birkrod

of Stephen de Ashworth, granted it to Robert son of Robert de Ashworth; a rent of 1*d.* was payable to the chief lord, Henry son of Randle de Ashworth.⁸ From these and other deeds it is clear that the land was much divided, and that the local surname was used by any or all of the tenants.

Stephen de Ashworth, just mentioned, gave an acre of his church land to John Spode.⁹ He was succeeded by daughters—Maud, Margery, and Edusa. Two of them are named in a grant of all his lands by Ralph de Ashworth to Robert de Ashworth son of Alexander de Bamford.¹⁰ A Robert son of Robert de Ashworth married Tiffany daughter of Margery, and to him her sisters appear to have made over all their rights about the year 1290.¹¹

It does not seem possible to make a clear account of the descent of the manor out of these materials. In 1294, however, Richard de Ashworth, whose father's name is not given, is called the chief lord.¹² Richard had a son Robert, whose daughter and heir Maud in or about 1349 married Hugh son of John del Holt, member of a Rochdale family.¹³ The Holts retained the manor for 350 years.¹⁴ Robert Holt,



HOLT. *Argent on a bend engrailed sable three fleurs de lis of the field.*

¹ Subs. R. bdle. 250, no. 9, Lancs.

² Loc. Govt. Bd. Order 31671.

³ It is usually named among the appurtenances of the lordship; see also the inquisitions, &c., cited in later notes.

⁴ This appears from charters cited below.

⁵ *Lancs. Inq. p.m.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), iii, 448, from an imperfect copy. The phrase 'et Francis et Anglicis' occurs in the introductory clause. An old copy, transcribed by Canon Raines, introduces the words in the grant: 'salvo jure Ricardi de Blonda.'

⁶ *Final Conc.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), i, 74. Henry de Whalley was present when the concord was made, and did homage to Geoffrey.

⁷ Raines MSS. (Chet. Lib.), xi, 252. Robert de Middleton and Alan his brother were witnesses. This charter and others were copied by Canon Raines in 1845 from the originals, then in the possession of James Dearden, lord of the manor of Rochdale; other Ashworth charters he copied from old copies in the same collection.

⁸ *Ibid.* 253. Robert de Middleton was a witness.

⁹ *Ibid.* 252. The seal bore an eight-petalled flower with the legend + s' STEPHAN DE ASHWRT. William de Middleton was a witness.

¹⁰ *Ibid.* 253. The grant included the homage of Alexander son of Robert de Ashworth (1½*d.*), and John son of Alexander (1½*d.*); also Mollie and Margery (2½*d.*). The same Ralph, perhaps at an earlier time, granted land to Robert son of Robert de Ashworth; the bounds in one place followed the plough of the church, and they touched Penkesdene. Robert de Ashworth was a witness; *ibid.*

Margery daughter of Richard de Ashworth son of Walter, in her virginity granted to the same Robert son of Alexander de Bamford her right in half an oxgang of land in Ashworth; and Robert her brother made a similar grant; *ibid.* 258.

¹¹ In 1287 Eudys daughter of Stephen de Ashworth in her widowhood granted land to Robert son of Robert de Ashworth and Tiffany daughter of Margery her sister (the bounds included Bentley Ford); and Maud, another daughter of Stephen, did the same; *ibid.* 259. Margery daughter of Stephen also granted, but perhaps at an earlier time, certain lands to Robert son of Robert; the bounds began at the dwelling of Sweyn, followed the metes between the church land and the lay fee to Ashworth, and by the syke to Pedkesdene; Kulneclow is also named. Robert de Ashworth was a witness; *ibid.*

It is difficult to decide on the identity of this Robert son of Robert, but perhaps his father was the son of Alexander de Bamford. There was, however, an earlier Robert, for Geoffrey son of John de Buckley granted to Robert son of Jordan de Ashworth all his lands in Ashworth; the bounds included Blachlache, Penkesden, Stancliste, Warmedene, Wudulschac, and Russilache. One witness was Roger de Middleton, and if this be the earlier Roger (of 1212) the grantee would no doubt be son of the Jordan de Ashworth who attested the charter of the time of Henry II, already quoted; *ibid.* 258. Robert de Ashworth, son of Alexander de Bamford, granted 'as to his partner' to Robert son of Robert de Ashworth all the waste pertaining to the third part of an oxgang of land in Ashworth; *ibid.*

¹² Margery daughter of Stephen de Ashworth in that year released to Richard de Ashworth, her chief lord, all her lands; *ibid.* 254. Maud de Ashworth released to Richard de Ashworth, probably about the same time, land and house and all her part of the barn, held of the church of Middleton; *ibid.*

The grant to Geoffrey son of Robert the dean seems to have descended to Henry de Whalley in 1236. Afterwards, as noted above, Henry son of Randle is

called chief lord; and then in 1294 Richard de Ashworth is so entitled. The grant to the Chethams was perhaps redeemed, for the 3*s.* 4*d.* was afterwards payable to the lords of Middleton directly. In 1298 Geoffrey de Chadderton confirmed to his son Adam all his land in Ashworth; Clowes D. See also the case referred to below.

As to the parentage of Richard de Ashworth, a Robert son of Richard son of Walter has occurred above, but appears to be too early for the Robert son of Richard whose daughter was living in 1405.

¹³ Holt near Milnrow is thought to be the place from which this wide-spreading family took a surname.

In Nov. 1349 Henry son of Henry de Greenhalgh gave to Hugh son of John del Holt and Maud daughter of Robert de Ashworth all Maud's lands; Raines, *op. cit.* 257. In Lent 1357 John de Chetham claimed the 3*s.* 4*d.* rent from Hugh del Holt and Maud de Ashworth, &c. Hugh thereupon twice challenged the array of the assize; first, because Ellen wife of Richard de Cudworth, the bailiff, was of kin to the plaintiff, and second because William de Radcliffe, the sheriff, was also akin; Duchy of Lanc. Assize R. 6, m. 3. In the following year John de Chetham did not prosecute his claim; Assize R. 438, m. 9. Hugh del Holt was living in 1370, when he granted all his lands in Bury and Middleton to his son Robert, with remainders to younger sons, Hugh and John; Raines, *op. cit.* 265. It may have been the younger Hugh who was outlawed in 1393, when the escheator sold his forfeited goods; *ibid.* 257. Hugh de Holt in 1375 claimed the moiety of a messuage and lands in Middleton against Richard de Urmston and Margaret his wife; De Banco R. 456, m. 10.

¹⁴ Robert de Holt the son of Hugh, already mentioned, in 1395 granted to John de Holt, chaplain, as trustee, the lands which had belonged to Richard 'the Abbot'

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who died in 1560, held the capital messuage with eighteen others, a water-mill, four fulling-mills, 300 acres arable land, &c., in Ashworth, of Richard Assheton of Middleton, by a rent of 3s. 4d. His eldest son and heir, Robert, was sixteen years of age.¹⁵ His second son, William, is the most famous member of the family. He was born about 1545, and sent up to Oxford, where he graduated, afterwards becoming Master of Arts of Cambridge also.¹⁶ Dissatisfied with the Church of England he went to Douay in 1574, where he studied theology, and was ordained.¹⁷ Being sent to Rome he entered the Society of Jesus in 1578, and three years later was sent on the English mission. He was then employed by the imprisoned Queen of Scots on an embassy to her son,

King James. He was arrested at Leith in 1583 and put to the torture, Queen Elizabeth urging this in the hope of obtaining knowledge of suspected plots in England; nothing, however, was obtained from him. He was liberated in the following year and sent abroad. He died at Barcelona in 1599.¹⁸

Robert Holt lived on until 1624.^{18a} He procured the ancient rent of 3s. 4d. to be commuted to a pair of gloves. He had a son Robert, who died before his father, leaving a son and heir Richard,¹⁹ who came of age in 1618, when a settlement of part of the Ashworth estate was made by Robert and Richard Holt; the latter had married Mary, a sister of Theophilus Ashton, and afterwards the wife of John Greenhalgh, and died in 1620, leaving an infant son

in the hamlet of Ashworth; and they were regranted to Robert with remainders to Hugh and William his brothers; Raines, op. cit. 261. Robert in 1398 granted to Maud his mother certain lands in Middleton and Bury; *ibid.* Richard the Abbot attested a charter in 1343; *ibid.* 257. His lands were the subject of another feoffment in 1398, perhaps after the death of Robert de Holt; *ibid.* 262.

In 1401 Maud the widow was summoned to answer Henry de Greenhalgh and Alice his wife concerning the wardship of Hugh son and heir of Robert son of Hugh de Holt. It was asserted that Robert had held two messuages and lands in Middleton of Richard de Barton in socage by the service of 3s. 4d. yearly; and Alice claimed as next of kin, being Hugh's grandmother, her daughter (Alice) by a former husband, Thomas de Barlow, having been Robert's wife. Maud successfully upheld her title by the above-cited grant of her son in 1398; *Pal. of Lanc. Plea R. 1, m. 24b.*

In 1405 the feoffees granted to Hugh son of Hugh de Holt and William his brother an annual rent after the death of Maud widow of Hugh de Holt and of John de Holt, chaplain, from the lands which had belonged to Robert son of Richard de Ashworth. Hugh son of Robert de Holt was the heir; Raines, op. cit. 263, 264.

Hugh the heir was at that time probably very young. In 1419 Margaret de Shaw, wife of Richard de Urmston, released all actions against him; *ibid.* 266. In 1435 he made a feoffment of all his lands, of which he was refoffed in 1467; *ibid.* 266. Hugh Holt of Ashworth was fined in 1448; his sons Thurstan and William are mentioned about the same time; *Pal. of Lanc. Plea R. 11, m. 42; 12, 29b.* Hugh seems to have been outlawed, and in 1449 the escheator sold his goods to Richard Barton; Raines, op. cit. 268. He contracted his daughter Isabel in 1455 to marry Oliver Parker; and twelve years later his son and heir apparent, Richard, was married to Margaret daughter of James Chetham of Nuthurst; *ibid.* 267, 272. About the same time the old dispute as to the 3s. 4d. rent was referred to arbitration, and no doubt settled; Clowes D. Just ten years later still Oliver son of Richard son of Hugh Holt was contracted in marriage with Constance daughter of James son of Ralph Holt of Gristlehurst; Richard was probably dead; Raines, 273. In 1478 Hugh was refoffed of all his lands, with remainders to Oliver son of Richard Holt, to William and Jordan brothers of Richard, and to Adam Holt; *ibid.* 268.

Oliver Holt occurs again in 1517 and 1520; *ibid.* 269. In 1518 he made a feoffment of all his manors, messuages, &c., called 'le Ashworth'; *Pal. of Lanc. Plea R. 123, m. 3d.* In 1522 he with other feoffees gave land in Ashworth for Grace the daughter of Ralph Rishton, who was to marry Robert the son and heir apparent of Oliver, with remainder to Richard the brother of Robert; Raines, 269, 270. Robert Holt in 1533 married Joan sister of Robert Langley of Agecroft; Agecroft D. 106, 107. In the depositions in a dispute as to the bounds of the waste between Robert Holt and tenants of the Earl of Derby in Bury are many particulars as to the place-names. Penkesden Brook, part of the boundary, was in dispute, it being asserted by the witnesses for Holt that Cheesden Brook ceased to be so called at the Lumn (Lumn Bridge, at the north end of Ashworth), and was then called Penkesden Brook until it fell into Naden Brook; while on the other side it was said that Penkesden was a small brook flowing into the Cheesden; *Duchy Pleadings* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), iii, 52-60. The present arbitrary boundary line, running north and south on the east side of Cheesden Brook, probably represents a compromise made on the occasion.

¹⁵ He died on 22 Jan. 1559-60. Joan his wife survived him; sons Robert and William are named, and daughters Cecily, Dorothy, and Elizabeth; also the brother Richard. Feoffments made in 1559 are recited in the inquisition in Raines, op. cit. 275. His will is printed in Piccope, *Wills* (Chet. Soc.), i, 52-4.

Richard Ashton of Middleton in 1566 stated that Robert Holt of Ashworth, holding of him by knight's service, had died leaving a son and heir, Robert Holt, whose wardship belonged to him; but one Roger Gartside, having obtained the deeds and evidences, had forcibly carried the heir away and made him marry one of his daughters; *Duchy of Lanc. Plead.* xlviii, A. 4.

¹⁶ He was of Brasenose College, Oxford, B.A. 1566; fellow of Oriel 1568; M.A. 1572; Foster, *Alumni*; also Cooper, *Athenae Cantab.* ii, 283, 551. Raines quotes his own statement (from the *Bowes Correspondence*, Surtees Soc.), that he was born at Ashworth.

¹⁷ *Douay Diaries*, 6, 25.

¹⁸ See *Dict. Nat. Biog.*; Gillow, *Bibl. Dict. of Engl. Catholics*, iii, 361-5; Foley, *Records S. J.* vii, 368, 1231-46. For a time after his expulsion from Scotland he was rector of the English College at Rome; then for ten years he resided in Belgium, distributing the King of Spain's alms to

the English exiles for religion. In the bitter dissensions which at that time arose among the adherents of the old religion he was a strong partisan of the 'Spanish' faction, and roused so much bitterness that he was sent to Spain, where he died. He appears to have been an upright and able man, but austere even to harshness in his dealings with others. Many references to him will be found in the *Calendars of State Papers* of the time. His account of 'how the Catholic religion had been continued in England during thirty-eight years of persecution, and how it might still be preserved,' is printed in the *Douay Diaries* and in Foley.

^{18a} In 1574 there was a fine of Ashworth, &c., Robert Holt being deforciant; *Pal. of Lanc. Feet of F. bde.* 36, m. 42. Some of the deeds are in Raines MSS. xi, 278, 279.

Robert Holt some time before 1565 married Agnes daughter of Roger Gartside; she had an estate in Saddleworth, which was to descend to her heirs; *Lancs. Inq.* iii, 440; *Pal. of Lanc. Feet of F. bde.* 27, no. 166; *Yorks. Fines* (Yorks. Arch. and Top. Assoc.), ii, 26. The 'wife of Mr. Robert Holt' was buried at Middleton 2 Nov. 1594; and he seems to have married a second wife named Clemence, buried at the same place 9 June, 1609; *Regs.*

¹⁹ Robert Holt, son of Robert, married Mary daughter of Sir Richard Assheton at Middleton in 1594; their son Richard was baptized at the same church on 28 March 1597; and the wife was buried there 25 Aug. 1600. Robert married as his second wife Dorothy, by whom he had a son William, born in 1606. Robert was buried on 2 Jan. 1608-9; Middleton registers. Immediately afterwards the wardship of Richard the heir was granted to his grandfather Robert; Raines, xi, 282.

The will of Robert Holt the son, dated 1608, is given in Raines MSS. vi, 266. Richard was his son and heir. He died 'holding the pure religion now established in the Church of England,' as he had held it 'from the time of his discretion.' The apostle spoons of his grandfather Gartside were to be heirlooms. Coal mines at Nat Bank are mentioned.

In 1614 Richard was contracted in marriage to Mary daughter of Robert Duckenfield; Raines MSS. xi, 294; Earwaker, *East Cheshire*, ii, 20. The 'wife of Mr. Richard Holt of Ashworth' was buried at Middleton 19 May 1618; and the marriage with Mary sister of Theophilus Ashton of Clegg, mentioned in the inquisition of 1624, took place on 29 Oct. 1618; *Fishwick, Rochdale Registers*, ii, 156. By the former marriage there was a son Robert, who lived a few months only.

Richard, born in 1619, who became the heir of his great-grandfather in 1624. William Holt, a surviving son of Robert, entered into possession of the estates, probably as guardian of the heir.²⁰

Richard Holt came of age just before the outbreak of the Civil War, and, perhaps under the influence of the Greenhalghs, attached himself to the king's side. He returned home dangerously ill in December 1645, having taken part in the second defence of Lathom. His estates were sequestered, and having taken the National Covenant and Negative Oath, he compounded for a fine of £551, and took no further part in the struggle.²¹ He recorded a pedigree at the visitation in 1665,²² but died in 1668, leaving Ashworth by his will to his eldest son Robert.²³ Robert appears to have died without issue, for in 1700 his younger brother Richard, then in possession of Ashworth, joined with the other brothers, William and Thomas, in the sale of the estate to Samuel Hallows of Gray's Inn, for £3,960 and an annuity of £25.²⁴ The new owner, who appears to have been a Nonconformist, had no children, and left his estates in Ashworth, Newbold in Castleton, and elsewhere, to John Hatfield, son of his nephew John Hatfield of Hatfield, and to another nephew Samuel Hallows Hamer, son of Samuel Hamer of Newbold, expressing the wish that as Ashworth had always been an undivided property it might so continue on a division.²⁵ Accordingly it was taken by John Hatfield, who in 1751 sold it to Thomas Ferrand of Rochdale.²⁶ By him it was in 1767 sold to Samuel Egerton of Tatton,²⁷ and has descended to Earl Egerton of Tatton, the present owner.²⁸

²⁰ These statements are from the inquisitions made in 1624 after the death of Robert and Richard Holt; *Lancs. Inq. p.m.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), iii, 437-41; 442-51. The tenures appear to be more accurately given in the second document (p. 451).

²¹ *Royalist Comp. Papers* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), iii, 255-7. Debts amounting to £626 were due by him to Mr. Cudworth of Werneth, Mrs. Chetham of Manchester, and others. The Ashworth estate was worth £150 a year; he also had land in Saddleworth.

²² Dugdale, *Visit.* (Chet. Soc.), 148; it is meagre and inaccurate. Richard Holt was married twice—to Jane daughter of John Greenhalgh (at Bury in 1635) and to Jane daughter of Radcliffe Ashton of Cuerdale; *ibid.* 126, 10.

²³ Raines MSS. xi, 295. His wife Jane; sons Robert, Richard, William, and Thomas; and daughters Elizabeth and Mary, are named in the will. He was buried at Middleton 28 Sept. 1668. Of the daughters, Mary married Thomas Butler of Rawcliffe, and was living in 1704; *ibid.* 290.

²⁴ *Ibid.* 283, 284; also *Pal. of Lanc. Feet of F. bdle.* 245, m. 61. Mortgages amounting to over £3,000 had to be paid off, Sir Ralph Assheton of Middleton being the creditor.

Richard Holt does not seem to have married, though he had a 'particular kindness' for one of the Hulton family; *Hist. MSS. Com. Rep.* xiv, App. iv, 141. William Holt was in 1696 described as 'of York'; his wife in 1700 was Hannabella.

In a lease granted by Richard Holt in 1688 the following services were required, in addition to the rent of 23s. 4d. and four hens at Christmas: Four days' shearing or

reaping corn; two days' harrowing with an able horse and a harrow; loading four cartloads of turf; keeping a man for the wars, with musket and bandoliers; finding a man to sod the stone wall betwixt the common and demesne; finding three able men to marl while the marling time lasted, or pay 9s. a week. Tenants had also to grind their corn at Ashworth Mill; Raines MSS. xi, 282.

²⁵ *Ibid.* 286; the will of Samuel Hallows, dated 1736. For his character see Raines in *Notitia Cestr.* ii, 104.

²⁶ *Ibid.* 288-90; *Pal. of Lanc. Feet of F. bdle.* 348, m. 53. John Hatfield, a minor at his great-uncle's death, acquired possession in 1750; he had a brother, the Rev. George Hatfield. The advowson of the chapel was expressly included in the sale in 1751. At this time the clear rental was £338 11s. 9d. There was a coal mine at work. The area was nearly 630 customary acres.

²⁷ William Egerton was sole contributor to the land tax of 1787.

²⁸ Col. Fishwick in *Lancs. and Ches. Antiq. Soc.* xx, 30, quoting the title deeds. It appears, however, that there was an intermediate owner or mortgagee, one Samuel Hill, acquiring Ashworth from Thomas Ferrand in 1757; *Pal. of Lanc. Feet of F. bdle.* 359, m. 68.

The manor of Ashworth was included in a recovery of Wilbraham Egerton's estates in 1806; Aug. Assizes, 46 Geo. III, R. 8.

²⁹ *Royalist Comp. Papers*, iv, 41.

³⁰ Gastrell, in *Notitia Cestr.* (Chet. Soc.), ii, 102, says it was 'very ancient' and founded in the time of Henry VIII. Robert Holt in 1559 left 'toward the then sustentation of Ashworth chapel 6s. 8d.' to be paid 'when the church reeves should

Richard Kenyon, a leaseholder in Ashworth, adhered to the royal side in the Civil War, and had his property sequestered.²⁹

The chapel of St. James is of ancient *CHURCH* origin.³⁰ It had probably been erected by a lord of Ashworth for his family and tenants, and was but poorly furnished.³¹ It was a donative, and without endowment. The services were probably maintained but irregularly.³² In 1650 the Commonwealth commissioners recommended that it should be made into a parish church, but this was not carried out.³³ Bishop Gastrell in 1724 found that the Holts of Ashworth had always allowed £4 to the ministers, but Samuel Hallows, who had recently purchased it, alleged it to be a domestic chapel.³⁴ It seems to have been at that time used by the Nonconformists.³⁵ The owner afterwards gave £200 to meet an equal grant by Queen Anne's Bounty in 1737, and the chapel ceased to be a donative.³⁶ The patronage remains in the owner of Ashworth, now Lord Egerton of Tatton. The registers begin in 1741. In 1751 the income was stated to be £50, viz., £30 from land and £20 from pew rents.³⁷ The following have been the curates:—³⁸

- 1695 George Jackson, B.A.
- 1735 Jonathan Heaton, B.A. (Trinity Coll., Camb.)
- 1737 Peter Blakey, M.A.
- 1771 John Sutcliffe (Queen's Coll., Oxf.)
- 1806 William Horton, M.A.
- 1817 Thomas Hodgson

reasonably require the same; Piccote, *Wills*, i, 53. The chapel had a warden in Gastrell's time.

³¹ *Ch. Gds.* 1552 (Chet. Soc.), 12.

³² There was no surplice in 1592; *Lancs. and Ches. Antiq. Soc.* xiii, 57.

³³ *Commonw. Ch. Surv.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), 26. Just at that time there was no minister there, 'for want of maintenance.'

³⁴ *Notitia*, loc. cit.; 'it was certified that nothing certain belonged to it.' In 1671, however, Richard Whitehead of Pilsworth had given a rent-charge of £3 'to the use of such minister as should perform the service and cure at the chapel of Ashworth'; *ibid.* ii, 34.

³⁵ *Ibid.* ii, 105. Radcliffe Scholefield was officiating without licence in 1703; he was the Presbyterian minister of Whitworth in 1718, and afterwards held a charge in Cheshire; H. Fishwick, *Rochdale*, 264. In 1668, though 'with some difficulty,' Oliver Heywood was able to preach at Ashworth 'for one part of the day'; *Diaries*, i, 259.

³⁶ Raines in *Notitia Cestr.* ii, 104.

³⁷ Raines MSS. (Chet. Lib.), xi, 290.

³⁸ Church P. at Chester Dioc. Reg. For a biographical account of the curates from 1614 onward see Col. Fishwick's account in *Lancs. and Ches. Antiq. Soc.* xx, 33-40. The following names are chiefly taken from it: John Ashworth, 1614 to 1622; Richard Walker, 1622 to 1625; Hugh Brooks, styled 'Vicar of Ashworth,' occurs in 1626; — Ramsbottom occurs 1648; Henry Pendlebury, M.A. occurs 1649; — Leigh occurs 1652; Abraham Ashworth, B.A., 1665 to 1674 and later. Benjamin Hollinworth, of St. John's College, Cambridge, was there in 1686; Visit. P. at Chester.

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1821 Joseph Selkirk
1832 David Rathbone
1871 John Fish, M.A. (T.C.D.)
1883 Francis Edwin Waldie
1904 Thomas Earl Floyd

The church was nearly rebuilt in 1789, and was enlarged in 1837. It had a separate district assigned to it in 1867.³⁹

AINSWORTH

Euenesworth, 1243; Aynesworth, 1332.

Ainsworth lies about 6 miles west-north-west of Middleton Church; it is quite separated from Great Lever by the townships of Little Lever and Darcy Lever in Bolton, and from the rest of the parish by Radcliffe, and portions of Bury. It measures about 2 miles from north to south, and over a mile across. The area is 1,308½ acres.¹ It is an upland slope; the highest ground, over 500 ft., is in the northern half of the township, near the centre of which are situate the village and church. The eastern side is known as Cockey Moor, part of the moor being in Radcliffe. Blackshaw Brook forms the boundary on the west. The population in 1901 numbered 1,718.

The principal road is that from Bolton to Bury, passing through the southern end of the township. A more northerly road between the same places passes through the village, and runs across Cockey. The Lancashire and Yorkshire Company's Bolton and Bury line crosses the southern corner of the township, where it has a station called Bradley Fold.

A bronze celt and Roman coins have been found on Cockey Moor.

This moor was a mustering place for the Royalist troops in 1642.²

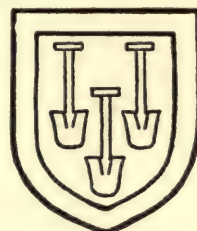
The soil is light, overlying gravel; wheat, oats, and potatoes are grown, and some land also is devoted to pasture. Cotton weaving is pursued, also bleaching and dyeing. 'Mr. John Wilson of Ainsworth, originally a fustian manufacturer, produced several ingenious inventions by which he brought cotton velvets to the utmost perfection; he also procured from the Greek dyers of Smyrna the secret of dyeing Turkey red.'³ Stone quarries are worked.

In 1666 there were fifty-one hearths liable to the tax, but no house had as many as six hearths.⁴

The township was in 1894 extended to include the rural part of Elton.⁵ It is governed by a parish council. A small recreation ground and gymnasium was presented to the township in 1902.

AINSWORTH was a member of Middleton Manor, and the earliest notice of it is in the grant of land there to Cockerand Abbey, made by Roger de Middleton about 1200.⁶ It is usually mentioned with other portions of the manor in settlements and inquisitions,⁷ and has descended to the Earl of Wilton.⁸

Ainsworth gave a surname to a local family, one of whom, by marriage with Maud de Middleton, held the principal manor for many years.⁹ The Ainsworth family, settled at Pleasington, continued to hold land in Ainsworth till the beginning of the 17th century.¹⁰ An estate in Ainsworth, Brightmet, and Harwood was in 1588 sold or mortgaged by



AINSWORTH of Pleasington. *Assure three spades within a bordure or.*

³⁹ *Land. Gaz.*, 21 May 1867. The endowment was in 1833 said to be derived from £800 private gift, £1,000 royal bounty, and £300 Parliamentary grant.

¹ The census report of 1901 gives 1,460 acres, including 18 of inland water. The increase is accounted for by the extension in 1894.

² *Stanley Papers* (Chet. Soc.), iii, p. lxxi.

³ E. Butterworth, *Middleton*, 57.

⁴ Subs. R. bdle. 250, no. 9, Lancs.

⁵ Loc. Govt. Bd. Order 31671; the extreme western end of Elton was the part added.

⁶ *Cockersand Chartul.* (Chet. Soc.), ii, 733. The bounds were—Murbrook from the deep moss, Mucklebrook, and the syke from Balshaw.

⁷ e.g., *Lancs. Inq. p.m.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), ii, 105.

⁸ On the partition of the Middleton and Radcliffe estates about 1780. The land tax returns of 1787 (at Preston) show that then Lord Grey de Wilton owned the greater part of the township.

⁹ See the account of the manor of Middleton.

William son of Robert de Ainsworth, about the end of the reign of Henry III, granted an oxgang of land here to Roger de Barlow; and added another oxgang, as well as a toft, with houses and meadows belonging thereto; *Harl. MS.* 2112, fol. 172/208. Maud, the sister of William de Ainsworth, released her claim in the 2 oxgangs to the same Roger de Barlow; *ibid.*

Robert de Ainsworth in 1324 gave land in Ainsworth to Robert his son and heir on his marriage with Isabel daughter of Richard de Woolston; Towneley MS. GG, no. 1690. Robert son of Robert de Ainsworth occurs in 1353; Towneley MS. DD, no. 2219. John son of Robert de Ainsworth and Maud his wife received land at Stakehill in 1342; GG, no. 1755. It is perhaps a different John son of Robert who, with Agnes his wife, is mentioned in 1398-9; DD, no. 2207-12.

John son of John de Ainsworth and Robert de Pilkington (who had married the younger John's daughter Katherine) in 1383 became bound to James de Radcliffe; a warning had been published from the pulpit of Walton Church; GG, no. 1840. The younger John, who lived at the Peak, by his wife Ellen (no. 1843, 2055) had a son Alexander; and Alexander in 1419 made a settlement of lands at Mellor in Derbyshire on his son (by Margaret 'Walklate') Hector, who married Margaret daughter of William de Clayton; no. 2007, 1784, 2064. Hector, probably illegitimate, afterwards sold his lands to Richard son of Robert de Pilkington; no. 2033.

Another Robert de Ainsworth attested a Droylsden charter about 1250; Byron Chartul. no. 25/5. John de Ainsworth was among the witnesses of a Farnworth grant in 1295; Lever Chartul. no. 54. Ellis son of John de Ainsworth was defendant in a claim by John de Barton and Agnes his wife in 1324; De Banco R. 252, m. 43 d. Ellis de Ainsworth con-

tributed to the subsidy of 1332; *Exch. Lay Subs.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), 36.

Ellis Ainsworth is named in 1411; DD, no. 2216. James Ainsworth of Middleton occurs in 1443; Pal. of Lanc. Plea R. 5, m. 6b. Lawrence Ainsworth in 1460 complained that Nicholas Longford and others, including Hugh, Geoffrey and Robert Ainsworth, had disseised him of his free tenement in Ainsworth; Pal. of Lanc. Writs of Assize.

Robert Ainsworth in 1543 complained that the lands called the Wood and Marled Earth, through which ran 'a brook and other little pirls' of water, had been damaged by certain persons—Lawrence Bradshaw of Brightmet, Joan widow of Thomas Ainsworth of Brightmet, &c.—having diverted the water courses; *Ducby Plead.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), ii, 176. Robert Ainsworth appears as plaintiff or defendant in other suits about the same time; *Ducatus Lanc.* (Rec. Com.), ii, 82, 77; i, 232, 262. Giles and Thomas Ainsworth occur in 1580; *ibid.* iii, 87. Giles and Robert Ainsworth were freeholders in 1600; *Misc.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), i, 248.

¹⁰ Thomas Ainsworth of Pleasington, who died 1613, held three messuages, 60 acres of land, &c., in Ainsworth of Sir Richard Assheton in socage and by 9d. rent; *Lancs. Inq. p.m.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), i, 247.

A Richard Ainsworth died in 1629, holding lands in Pleasington and Ainsworth; Towneley MS. C 8, 13 (Chet. Lib.), 7.

Thomas Ainsworth to Ralph Booth,¹¹ whose estate descended to his nephew Geoffrey Lomax in 1622.¹²

Other resident families were named Aspinall,¹³ Harper,¹⁴ and Openshaw.¹⁵ Robert Horrox of Ainsworth having declined knighthood compounded in 1631.¹⁶

About 1514 there was a dispute between the lords of Middleton and Radcliffe as to the right of turbary on Cockey Moor.¹⁷

The land tax returns show that Sir Thomas Egerton owned most of the land in 1783. Mrs. Ann Baron was the other owner.¹⁸

An inclosure award for Radcliffe and Ainsworth was made in 1812.¹⁹

A chapel existed at Cockey Moor in CHURCH 1515,²⁰ and probably continued in use after the Reformation.²¹ In 1620 it had a special curate or lecturer.²² Just before 1650 it was endowed with a small piece of land improved from the common, and had a regular minister, supported

by the offerings of the people.²³ Though the minister is stated to have been 'turned out' in 1662,²⁴ the building appears to have remained in possession of Nonconformists for nearly fifty years after this.²⁵ In 1718 Bishop Gastrell found that the rector of Middleton preached there once a month; other Sundays it was vacant.²⁶ Some endowments were secured.²⁷ The registers begin in 1727. The chapel, now called Christ Church, was rebuilt in 1832, and had a separate ecclesiastical parish assigned to it in 1867;²⁸ the rector of Middleton is patron. The following have been curates and vicars:—

1725. James Wylde, B.A. (Magdalen Hall, Oxford)²⁹

1759 John Barlow, B.A.

1768 Robert Deane, B.A.

1799 James Archer³⁰

1828 John Haughton, B.A.

1836 Richard Heslop³¹

¹¹ Pal. of Lanc. Feet of F. bdl. 50, m. 29; the transaction included twenty-seven messuages, a water-mill, 200 acres of land, &c. Thomas Ainsworth died at Ainsworth 26 May 1594, holding messuages and land there of Richard Assheton of Middleton in socage by a rent of 18*d.* His heir was his nephew Robert son of his brother Peter Ainsworth, aged twenty-seven; Duchy of Lanc. Inq. p.m. xvi, 8. The fine is recited in the inquisition.

The purchaser or mortgagee was the son of Ralph Booth, who died in 1567, holding three messuages, &c., in Ainsworth, partly of the queen by knight's service, and partly of Richard Assheton by a rent of 2*s.* yearly. Alice widow of Ralph, father of Ralph Booth, died in 1580; while Anne widow of Ralph died in 1574; Ralph, the son and heir, was twenty-two years of age, probably in 1584, when the inquisition was taken; Duchy of Lanc. Inq. p.m. xiv, 75.

Thomas Ainsworth, vendor or mortgagor, died at Ainsworth on 26 May 1594, holding seven messuages, &c., in Ainsworth, and fourteen messuages, water-mill, &c., in Brightmet and Harwood; the former of Richard Assheton in socage, by a rent of 18*d.* yearly, and the latter of the queen. His heir was his nephew Robert son of Peter Ainsworth; Duchy of Lanc. Inq. p.m. xvi, 8. See an entry in Pat. 7 Jas. I, pt. 26, for lands in Ainsworth, Brightmet, and Harwood.

¹² Roger Booth died at Ainsworth in 1622, holding three messuages, &c., of Ralph Assheton of Middleton, by a rent of 2*s.* and a pair of gloves; and 11 acres of the king by the 300th part of a knight's fee. The heir was his nephew Geoffrey Lomax, son and heir of Alice Holt, the sister of Ralph, then aged thirty-six; Lanc. Inq. p.m. (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), iii, 306.

¹³ John Aspinall of Ainsworth was a freeholder in 1600; Misc. (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), i, 250.

¹⁴ John Harper was a defendant in 1549 touching common of pasture on Cockey Moor; Ducatus Lanc. (Rec. Com.), i, 232. A later John Harper died in 1638, holding a messuage, &c., in Ainsworth of Ralph Assheton of Middleton in socage; John his son and heir was thirty years of age; Duchy of Lanc. Inq. p.m. xxx, 74.

¹⁵ About 1480 Richard Openshaw, 'heir

of the Shaw,' took an encroachment on Cockey Moor, which twenty years later descended to his son John. After John's death his brother James occupied the same, for John's son, another John, was 'out of the country at the wars,' and did not for some years appear to claim it; Cockey Moor Exam. 18. The house of John Openshaw in 1515 was beside the meeting of the boundary of three parishes—Middleton, Bury, and Bolton; ibid. 9. Lamwell Openshaw of Ainsworth was a freeholder in 1600; Misc. (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), i, 250.

¹⁶ Ibid. i, 215.

¹⁷ The depositions are printed in full in Raines' *Examinations touching Cockey Moor* (Chet. Soc. Misc. ii). It was shown that the people of Ainsworth were considered to be parishioners of Middleton, and paid tithes and other dues to it. John Hasnall, seventy-five years of age, had often been at 'the driving of the moor,' and the Radcliffe men had never claimed any right upon it. On the other hand it was shown that there had been disputes in former times between the lords of Radcliffe and Middleton concerning the moor.

¹⁸ Returns at Preston.

¹⁹ In accordance with the Act 49 Geo. III, cap. 8.

²⁰ Cockey Moor Exam. 12. The chapel is mentioned in 1544; Ducatus Lanc. (Rec. Com.), ii, 77, 82.

²¹ It was but scantily furnished in 1552; Ch. Gds. (Chet. Soc.), 12. In 1580 there was a dispute as to a water corn mill, 'late of the chantry of Cockey chapel'; Ducatus, iii, 63. Camden speaks of it as 'a chapel built of timber, beset round about with trees'; Britannia (ed. 1695), 745. It is named as 'a chapel of ease' about 1610; Hist. MSS. Com. Rep. xiv, App. iv, 12.

²² Misc. (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), i, 54, 66; Mr. William Rathbone. He was silenced by the Bishop of Chester for nonconformity; Oliver Heywood was one of his pupils; Heywood, *Diaries*, i, 29, 157. An earlier minister was a Mr. Hibbert; ibid. i, 20. The chapel was 'vacated by the ejection of an Episcopal clergyman about the year 1640, on the ground of his being "scandalous and ignorant," but really on his refusal to take the Covenant'; Raines in Gastrell's *Notitia Centr.* (Chet. Soc.), ii, 105. This seems to be an error of Canon Raines. Richard Goodwin,

M.A., was minister, seemingly in succession to Rathbone, from 1641 to 1647; Peter Bradshaw, 'an orthodox, able minister,' from 1647 to 1653; Nightingale, *Lancs. Nonconf.* iii, 119; *Commw. Ch. Surv.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), 27.

²³ Ibid. The commissioners recommended that it should be made a parish church; but nothing seems to have been done till 1659, when further inquiry was recommended; *Plund. Mini. Accts.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), ii, 305. The ministers were—Taylor, 1654–7; Peter Bradshaw, 1657 to 1660; and John Lever, 1660 (?) ; Nightingale, op. cit.

²⁴ See the extract from the Bishop of Chester's Act book in *Notitia Centr.* ii, 105.

²⁵ Various Nonconformist ministers preached in it as opportunity offered—e.g. Oliver Heywood, Henry Newcome, and others; O. Heywood, *Diaries*, ii, 51, 87, 103; H. Newcome, *Autobiography* (Chet. Soc.), 160. The Prayer-book service was 'occasionally performed on stated Sundays in the afternoon, by the rector of Middleton'; *Notitia*, ut sup. John Lomax was the curate, 1677–86; Visit. Lists at Chester. In 1683 Justice Greenhalgh had 'grown unreasonable, fining people for going to Cockey chapel, though bell was rung, prayers read, &c.'; O. Heywood, *Diaries*, ii, 223. John Compton was the certified 'Presbyterian parson' of 'Cockey chapel' in 1689; Hist. MSS. Com. Rep. xiv, App. iv, 232. Warden Wroe in 1706 reported to the bishop that 'the chapel was in the hands of the Dissenters'; *Notitia*, ut sup. There was, however, a warden.

²⁶ *Notitia*, ut sup.

²⁷ Bishop Gastrell records £2 15*s.* arising from the 6 acres of inclosed land; this land was then and still is in possession of the Nonconformists. Also the interest of £20 for preaching two sermons; in 1724 £100 was given by the rector, and £100 by the Dean of St. Paul's; *Notitia*.

²⁸ *Lond. Gaz.* 21 May 1867.

²⁹ The Church P. at Ches. Dioc. Reg. begin with this curate.

³⁰ Afterwards rector of Middleton.

³¹ Perpetual curate of Siale, Northumberland, 1831–48; of Otterford, Somerset, 1851–5; vicar of St. John's Park, Sheffield, 1855; also simultaneous curacies; published sermons, &c. He was suspended for drunkenness, &c., in 1842; Church P. at Chester.

A HISTORY OF LANCASHIRE

- 1851 G. R. Carr
1857 Robert Macdonnell Evanson, M.A. (T.C.D.)
1888 John Alexander Lauria, M.A. (Emmanuel Coll., Camb.)
1905 Alfred Wood

There is a chapel of the Methodist New Connexion, built in 1847.

The people of the district in the 17th century appear to have been resolute Puritans. As stated above the chapel at Cockey was retained by the Non-conformists until the beginning of the following century; in 1715 they built a meeting house so near the old chapel 'that the congregations might hear one another sing psalms.' The doctrine for nearly a century has been Unitarian.³²

GREAT LEVER

Leoure, 1278; Leuir, 1282; Leuere, 1292; Leuer, 1301; Leyver, 1560.

The isolated township of Great Lever, some 9 miles west of Middleton Church, measures over 2 miles from east to west, and has an area of 866½ acres. It lies chiefly between two small brooks running eastward to the Tonge, which forms the eastern boundary. Lever proper lies in the south-eastern portion, with Buriden to the north, and Priestcroft to the south-west, Lever Edge stretching away to the west. The surface is generally level, falling a little from Lever Edge towards the north, east, and south. The population in 1901, including that of Darcy Lever, was 10,701.

The principal road is that from Manchester to Bolton, passing north-west through the eastern side of the township. Another road goes west along the Edge. The Lancashire and Yorkshire Company's railway from Manchester to Bolton runs on the west side of the former road. The London and North-Western Company's Worsley and Bolton branch crosses the centre of the township, going north; and the same company's Bolton and Kenyon Junction line touches the north-western boundary.

Besides collieries the industries include cotton mills

and chemical and bleach works. There are many good residences.

The township was included in Bolton by the Extension Act of 1898.

The hearth tax of 1666 found fifty-eight hearths liable, of which twenty-one were in the house of 'my lord Bridgeman'; no other dwelling had as many as six.¹

Though technically a hamlet of Middleton, and held of its lord, *GREAT*

LEVER had always a certain independence, and is not usually recited among the hamlets or appurtenances of Middleton as are the rest.² Its early history is obscure; for a time it was held in moieties, and a portion was granted to the priory of Birkenhead. The tenure also is not quite clear. In an early deed, as will be seen, a moiety of Great Lever is said to be held of the lord of Middleton by the fortieth part of a knight's fee, so that the whole would be the twentieth part; with this agrees the rent of 14d. payable in the 16th century to the lord of Middleton, that sum being a twentieth part of the 23s. 4d. due from Middleton to the duchy for sake fee and castle ward. Yet at the same time, in the 16th century, the tenure is stated as the eightieth part of a fee. In a petition of the time of Edward IV Great Lever was said to be held of the lord of Middleton by knight's service, rendering 10s. to a scutage of 40s.—i.e. it was considered to be the fourth part of a knight's fee.

Not far from the year 1200 Leising de Lever, apparently the lord of Little Lever, granted to Leising de Farnworth a moiety of the vill of Great Lever, with common of pasture in Little Lever; the moiety to be held of Roger de Middleton by the service of the fortieth part of a knight's fee.³ Descendants of the grantor—Henry, William, and Henry—who appear to be described sometimes as 'of Little Lever,' but usually as 'of Great Lever,' continued to claim the lordship during the 13th century,⁴ after which no more is heard of them in this connexion. Leising de Farnworth probably adopted the local surname, and seems to have been the father of Emma de Lever,⁵ with whose son John the more detailed history of the manor begins in the third quarter of the century.⁶

³² There is a full account of it in Nightingale, *Lancs. Nonconf.* iii, 115–27, with notices of the ministers, and a view of the building. A 'new built house on Cockey Moor' was licensed in 1672; *ibid.* 121. The chapel has endowments of over £250 a year; details are given in the *Endowed Charities Report* for Middleton, 1901, pp. 32–6.

¹ Subs. R. bdle. 250, no. 9, *Lancs.*

² See examples in the notes to the account of Middleton; *Lancs. Inq. and Extents* (Rec. Soc. *Lancs.* and *Ches.*), i, 60–1.

³ Lever Chartul. (Add. MS. 32103, a Towneley MS.), no. 10. Leising de Farnworth occurs in 1184; Farrer, *Lancs. Pipe R.* 55.

⁴ An early 13th-century deed mentions Alward, brother of Henry, son of Leising de Lever; Lever Chartul. no. 207. William son of Henry, lord of Lever, occurs later; *ibid.* no. 11, 13. Henry son of William, once called 'of Little Lever,' occurs as lord of Lever from about 1276 to 1292; De Banco R. 13, m. 11—in which plea 'Little Lever' may be an error of the clerk's; Lever Chartul. no. 6. In 1276 Henry son of William de Lever

complained of the prostrating of a ditch in Lever by William and Adam sons of John de Lever; Assize R. 1238, m. 34 d. A William de Lever took part in an inquisition in 1288; *Lancs. Inq. and Extents*, i, 268. It is possible that Leising de Lever was lord of the whole of Great Lever, and that after granting half to Leising de Farnworth he retained the other half, which descended to Henry, William, and Henry, and then came to the hands of Robert de Middleton. A William de Lever occurs in the 14th century, but his parentage is not known.

⁵ That Emma de Lever was the daughter of the Farnworth and not the Lever Leising seems probable from the fact that her descendants had lands in that township, as may be seen in the account of it.

⁶ William the Tailor and Eve his wife complained in 1246 that John son of Emma and Thomas the Miller had, by erecting a mill in Lever, ousted them from a portion of their land. The jury agreed that a fourth part of the mill should be destroyed, allowing William and Eve to regain their right; Assize R. 404, m. 1. The same plaintiffs also called upon John

son of Emma to warrant to them an ox-gang and a half of land in Lever; *ibid.* m. 2.

About the same time an agreement was made between Adam son of Matthew de (Little) Lever on one side and William son of Henry de (Great) Lever, John son of Emma of the same, and William the Tailor on the other side, respecting the mill of Great Lever with the fishery there; Lever Chartul. no. 13, 14. Later, John de Lever granted to his son Adam the Clerk all his land and right in Great Lever, with wards, reliefs, and all appurtenances; *ibid.* no. 17.

In 1256 the sheriff was ordered to make a perambulation between the land of Adam de (Little) Lever in Little Lever and that of William son of Henry, John son of Emma, and William son of Thomas in Great Lever; Close, 40 Hen. III, m. 12 d.

In Oct. 1278 John de Lever appeared to answer a claim to 4s. rent 'in Middleton' made by Henry de Lever; De Banco R. 27, m. 36 d. He must have died shortly afterwards, for a year later Alice widow of John de Lever claimed dower

Adam, the son of John de Lever, succeeded. He made considerable additions to the paternal lands, more especially in Farnworth.⁷ He had several lawsuits, particularly with Henry de Lever, but was usually successful.⁸ He was followed about 1310 by his son John,⁹ who, dying about the same time, left as heir a son Adam, under age. Roger de Middleton, as superior lord, in 1313 granted to William de Charnock the education of the heir, promising him 20s. a year towards Adam's



LEVER of Lever. *Argent two bendlets, the upper one enrailed, sable.*

keep, and engaging to supply clothing.¹⁰ This was probably the Adam de Lever who was killed, with twenty-six others, in the disturbances at Liverpool on the day after Ash Wednesday 1345, during the visit of the king's justices.^{10a} Adam had a son John, living about 1356 to 1370 of whom nothing of note is recorded.¹¹ John's son, Adam the younger, obtained the Pilkington lands in Great Lever, thus becoming sole lord of the manor;¹² and by his marriage with Margaret Cundcliffe added lands in Anderton to his patrimony.¹³

Adam had two sons, William¹⁴ and Henry. The former, who died about the end of 1447, left a son Adam as heir; a minor, but married to Joan daughter of William Garnet.¹⁵ Adam died early, leaving a

against Roger the Clerk of Farnworth, holding messuages and land in Great Lever; against Roger son of Meredith, John son of Adam de Kearsley, and Richard Pierpoint, also tenants of Great Lever; *De Banco R.* 31, m. 55. Roger the Clerk was probably a son of John de Lever; *Lever Chartul.* no. 46. Richard son of Margaret de Lever granted an oxgang of land in Lever to John son of Roger de Lever; *ibid.* no. 36(2). John appears to have been killed accidentally about 1279 by William son of Jordan de Burnden; *Cal. Close*, 1272-9, p. 522.

⁷ See the account of Farnworth in Deane.

William son of Adam de (Great) Lever released to Adam son of John de (Great) Lever all his land and right in the vill of Great Lever, with homages, services in waters and mills, reliefs, &c.; *Lever Chartul.* no. 18. Ellis de (Little) Lever granted to Adam son of John de (Great) Lever all his part of the mill and fishery about which dispute had again arisen, for the rent of a rose; *ibid.* no. 26. In 1292 Roger son of William the Tailor granted to Adam de (Great) Lever and Amice (or Avice) his wife all his land in Great Lever; *ibid.* no. 51. Adam was still living in 1310; *ibid.* no. 78.

Adam son of John de Lever was one of the jurors in the Grelley inquisition of 1282; *Lancs. Inq. and Extents*, i, 244.

⁸ In 1284 Adam de Lever unsuccessfully claimed certain land against Henry de Lever and Henry and John de Burnden; *Assize R.* 1268, m. 19.

Eight years later Henry de Burnden was plaintiff, asserting that Adam son of John de Lever and Henry de Lever had disseised him of his common of pasture in 30 acres of arable land after the corn had been carried away, and his reasonable estovers in 5 acres of wood (as in housebote and heybote, to build, burn, and fence) and in 3 acres of turbary in Middleton. The defendants alleged that the land was in Lever, not in Middleton; the jury said it was in Middleton, but gave a verdict for the plaintiff only in respect of the turbary; *Assize R.* 408, m. 9 d. At the same time Adam de Lever was able to refute the claim made by Henry de Lever for certain customs and services in respect of the free tenement held of Henry in Middleton; *ibid.* m. 44. Henry de Lever also claimed certain small parcels of land and the moiety of a water-mill in Middleton against Adam de Lever. He failed as regards the land, which had been required for an enlargement of the mill, but succeeded in the other claim, the jury deciding that Henry and Adam were parceners of the vill of Middleton, Adam

claiming to be 'chief lord of the moiety of the vill'; *ibid.* m. 29 d. In these cases it is noticeable that 'Middleton' is used for 'Lever in Middleton.' The other Lever was in Bolton. Henry de Lever also failed in his claim for 14d. rent from Adam de Lever, John and Roger his sons, and others; *ibid.* m. 68 d. A rent of 14d. was later paid by the lord of Great Lever to Middleton. Henry was nonsuited in another claim against Adam; *ibid.* m. 76. Adam was successful in another suit; *ibid.* m. 93 d. Adam son of John de Lever and Avice his wife were defendants in 1295; *Assize R.* 1306, m. 20.

Adam de Lever, John his son and Agnes his wife, and Roger and Adam other sons, were plaintiffs in 1301, and the three former in 1305; *Assize R.* 1321, m. 3; 420, m. 8. No details are given of these cases.

⁹ John son of Adam is mentioned in the preceding note. He also occurs in the Lever Chartulary. About the same time there was another John de Lever (son of John) in Farnworth.

¹⁰ *Lever Chartul.* no. 79. In 1318 John son of John de Lever released all his claim to lands in the hamlets of Great Lever and Farnworth to Adam son of John son of Adam de Lever; *ibid.* no. 83.

Adam therefore had probably attained his majority. He married Agnes daughter of Henry de Hulton of Farnworth, and in 1326 a moiety of the manor of Great Lever and three-fourths of the manor of Farnworth were settled upon him, with remainders to their children—John, Roger, and Aline; *Final Conc.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), ii, 62, 63.

In 1329 William de Lever leased to Adam for life the mill of Great Lever, but William was to have his corn ground free of mulcture and to be hopper free; *Lever Chartul.* no. 89. Agnes widow of John son of William de Lever recovered dower in a mill in Middleton in July 1352 against John [de Lever] son of Agnes de Hulton; *Duchy of Lanc. Assize R.* 2, m. 2.

^{10a} *Cal. Pat.* 1343-5, pp. 495, 499; *Coram Rege R.* 344, m. 8; 348, m. 22.

¹¹ John son of Adam de Lever occurs in Farnworth deeds of 1356 and 1368; his brother Henry occurs also at the former date; *Lever Chartul.* no. 96-100.

¹² *Ibid.* no. 101; see further below.

¹³ *Ibid.* no. 109, 112. As Adam de Lever the elder he occurs in 1417 and 1423; *ibid.* no. 113, 115.

¹⁴ In 1420 Adam de Lever, Margaret his wife, and William the son of Adam made an exchange of lands in Anderton with the Anderton family; *ibid.* no. 114. In 1423 Adam de Lever enfeoffed Richard de Pilkington of Blackrod and John his

brother of all his lands in Lancashire; and in 1432 the feoffees released to William de Lever all their right in Adam de Lever's lands, &c. in Great Lever in the vill of Middleton, in the hamlet of Farnworth in the vill of Barton, and in the vill of Anderton in Leylandshire; *ibid.* no. 115, 119. A further release was given in 1442; *ibid.* no. 134-6.

William de Lever appears to have had two illegitimate sons—Ralph and Lawrence—to whom he made various grants, and a daughter Margaret, contracted in marriage in 1437 to John Byrom of Byrom; *ibid.* no. 120, 129, 155; 124, 126-8. From the deeds cited it does not appear that William had then any legitimate issue except Margaret, but the son Adam must have been born shortly afterwards, as he was married in 1445.

At Michaelmas 1437 William granted to Lawrence, for life, the manor of Great Lever, with the demesnes and lands called Brandearth, Burnden Head, and Lever Moor, &c. at a rent of 20 marks; *ibid.* no. 129. In the following April he made a general feoffment of his lands, rents, services, &c. in Lancashire to Sir Robert de Harrington and Edmund de Pilkington; *ibid.* no. 131. He may have married a second time.

In 1442 William de Lever, Alice his wife, and Lawrence de Lever granted leases of lands in Great Lever and Lever Edge; *ibid.* no. 137, 138. Three years later he granted to feoffees, who included William Garnet the younger, the site of his manor of Lever, with its gardens, &c. and Starkcliff adjoining, meadow and pasture called Near and Further Lever Eeas (Eghes) and Warths, with the water-mill and fulling mill; Lawrence Lever joined in another grant to the feoffees, and received certain lands from them; *ibid.* no. 146-50.

¹⁵ The feoffees immediately (5 Nov. 1445) granted certain of the lands of William Lever to Joan daughter of William Garnet, with remainder to Adam son of William Lever, who had married Joan; and then to Roger brother of Adam; *ibid.* no. 151-4. William Garnet paid 110 marks for the marriage; *ibid.* no. 159, 169. There are many other deeds relating to this marriage. In the following April William, Ralph, and Lawrence Lever granted to the feoffees the water-mill of Lever with the rydell and watercourse; but Ralph was to receive an annuity from it until Adam the son of William should attain the age of fourteen; *ibid.* no. 158.

William Lever and Alice his wife were living in Aug. 1447; *ibid.* no. 169, 175. William died before 28 Jan. 1447-8 on

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daughter and heir Margaret, only two years of age. Sir Ralph Ashton of Middleton, the superior lord, married her to his younger son Ralph, who thus became lord of Great Lever. This transfer to the Ashtons did not take place without persistent opposition on the part of the Lever family. Sir Ralph Ashton, however, in 1467 proved his right to the wardship against Roger Lever son of William and uncle of the heiress. Not long afterwards Roger Lever and a party of his kinsfolk and friends assembled at Lancaster and took the record of the recovery from its place of keeping in the castle; whereupon in 1472 Sir Ralph petitioned Parliament that his right might be safeguarded in spite of the loss of the record. In the suit referred to it was stated that Adam Lever had held the manor of Great Lever of Richard Barton of Middleton by knight's service; that his daughter and heir Margaret being under age the custody of the manor belonged to Richard, and after his death to his executors; then to Sir Ralph Ashton of Middleton. In 1479-80 Roger Lever, called 'of Bolton,' received a pardon for any offences he might have committed; it appears that he was outlawed for murder. The violence was not all on one side, for in 1469 an agreement was made between Sir Ralph

Ashton and Thomas Pilkington; the latter was to capture Roger Lever, and if Roger were slain Sir Ralph would bear half the damage or would petition the king to interfere should the death be adjudged a murder. After Roger's death a claim was made to the Anderton estate on behalf of the heir male, a descendant of the above-named Henry son of Adam Lever; but the Ashtons of Lever established their title.¹⁶

Ralph Ashton, who, as stated, acquired the manor with his wife, was followed in regular descent by five Ralphs in succession.¹⁷ The last of them, who was also seated at Whalley, was created a baronet in 1620.¹⁸ He sold Great Lever and the adjoining estates to Bishop Bridgeman in 1629,¹⁹ and the manor has descended to the present Earl of Bradford. Bishop Bridgeman, of whom an account will be found among the rectors of Wigan, resided at Great Lever after his purchase, rebuilding the hall and domestic chapel.²⁰



BRIDGEMAN, Earl of Bradford. *Sable ten plates in pile, on a chief argent a lion passant of the field.*

which day William Garnet the elder agreed to submit all disputes between himself and Henry Lever the elder, and Giles and Henry his sons, who claimed a rent of 25s. from Great Lever as belonging to the manor of Little Lever. From the deeds it appears that William Lever was dead; his widow Alice is mentioned; and his son Adam, a minor, had married Joan Garnet; *ibid.* no. 176-8. Alice the widow shortly afterwards married John Hulme; *ibid.* no. 181.

A charter by William Lever of Great Lever to Adam his son and male issue, with remainder to Roger, another son, grants all his lands in Great Lever, Ladyhalgh in Anderton, and Farnworth; it is, however, dated in 1452; *ibid.* no. 182. Towneley may have copied the date wrongly, but it is the same in Dodsworth, cxlii, fol. 143.

¹⁶ There are in the Chartulary numerous deeds relating to these disputes; some are printed in *Rolls of Parl.* vi, 34, 181. There is a record of the suit of 1466 in Co. Placita, Lancs. no. 32; Pal. of Lanc. Plea R. 30, m. 9.

In June 1466 the executors of Richard Barton (of Middleton) released to Sir Ralph Ashton their claim to the wardship and marriage of Margaret daughter and heir of Adam Lever; Chartul. no. 183. In May 1467 Sir Ralph deputed Eleanor Lady Stanley to receive from the sheriff the manor of Great Lever, which he had recovered against Roger Lever, for the minority of Margaret daughter and heir of Adam Lever; *ibid.* no. 184. In the following December Roger son of William Lever released to Joan widow of Adam Lever all personal actions; *ibid.* no. 186.

In 1472, and again in 1477, Sir Ralph Ashton addressed to Parliament the petitions (printed in *Rolls of Parl.*) described in the text; *ibid.* 187, 188. In the latter of these is the statement, derived from the record of the recovery of 1466, that Great Lever paid 10s. to a scutage of 40s. and 4d. (? 14d.) to the lord of Middleton. The pardon to Roger Lever is no. 193 in the chartulary; and the agreement as to his capture no. 224.

In 1478, by arbitration, Great Lever

was awarded to Ralph Ashton (son of Sir Ralph), but Roger Lever (son of Alison) was to have Ladyhalgh for life; *ibid.* no. 227. The later suits by the heir male, Giles Lever, set out the claim fully; no. 219, 220, 221.

Part of Roger's defence in 1466 was that he held jointly with Thomas Pilkington and Alice wife of Sir Robert Tempest. Sir Richard Tempest was a plaintiff in 1483 respecting lands at Great Lever; Pal. of Lanc. Plea R. 57, m. 2 d.

¹⁷ Margaret, the heiress, married Ralph Ashton, and lived with him at Fryton in Yorkshire; but she died young, about 1483, leaving a son Ralph I, of tender years; *ibid.* no. 219 (ii). Ralph Ashton the younger, of Lever, agreed to an arbitration with Giles son of Adam Lever in 1509; *ibid.* no. 210.

Ralph Ashton II, called Richard by the herald, said to be the son of the last-named Ralph, recorded a pedigree in 1533; *Visit.* (Chet. Soc.), 206. He had married Margaret daughter of William Orrell of Turton, and had children, Ralph, Richard, and Ellen. His brother Richard acquired the site and some of the lands of Whalley Abbey. It was probably this Ralph Ashton who was engaged in various local inquiries in the reigns of Hen. VIII, Edw. VI, and Mary; see also *Ducatus Lanc.* (Rec. Com.), i, 161, 274, 275. He was probably also the Ralph who represented Liverpool in the last Parliament of Edw. VI, 1553; Pink and Beaven, *Parl. Repr. of Lancs.* 180.

Ralph Ashton III, called John in the printed *Visit.* (Chet. Soc.), 28, succeeded. He was born about 1523; Duchy of Lanc. Inq. p.m. xiv, no. 86. He married Alice Hulton of Farnworth, who survived him, and after his uncle Richard's death succeeded to Whalley. He died in Aug. 1587, holding the manor of Great Lever, with messuages, water-mill, &c. and the tithes, of Richard Assheton of Middleton by the eightieth part of a knight's fee and a rent of 14d.; also lands in Farnworth, Worsley, and Bolton. Ralph, his son and heir, was thirty-five years of age; *ibid.* xiv, 90. He served as sheriff of the county in 1578-9; P.R.O. List, 73.

Ralph Assheton IV died in May 1616, holding the manor of Great Lever, with messuages, water-mill, lands, and tithes in the place; other lands in Farnworth and neighbouring townships; the manor of Ladyhalgh in Anderton; the manor of Whalley, and lands there and in Yorkshire. The tenure of Great Lever is stated as in the previous inquisition. In 1604 a settlement of Ladyhalgh had been made in favour of Ralph Assheton son of Ralph and Dorothy his wife daughter of James Bellingham of Levens; *Lancs. Inq. p.m.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), ii, 286-290. He married Joan daughter and co-heir of Edward Radcliffe of Todmorden and granddaughter and co-heir of Thomas Radcliffe of Winmarleigh; Add. MS. 32105 (Towneley), fol. 237, 245.

He had acquired further lands in Great Lever and the neighbourhood; Pal. of Lanc. Feet of F. bdles. 50, m. 83; 57, m. 86; 59, m. 152. He served as sheriff in 1593-4; P.R.O. List, 73. A pedigree was recorded in 1613; *Visit.* (Chet. Soc.), 45.

¹⁸ He was thirty-five years of age in 1621, when the above inquisition was taken, and had been created a baronet in 1620. After the sale of Great Lever he lived at Whalley and Downham. The baronetcy became extinct in 1696, when the estates were divided between the Asshetons of Middleton and of Downham; G. E. C. *Complete Baronetage*, i, 149, 150. He was sheriff of the county in 1623-4; P.R.O. List, 73.

¹⁹ In August 1628 a fine was made concerning the manors of Great Lever, Farnworth, Kearsley, Wharton in Hulton, and Whalley, Sir Ralph Assheton being deforciant; Pal. of Lanc. Feet of F. bdle. 114, no. 8. At the end of the following year John Bridgeman, Bishop of Chester, acquired the manors of Great Lever and Farnworth from Sir Ralph Assheton, Eleanor his wife, and Ralph the son and heir; *ibid.* bdle. 115, no. 39.

²⁰ See Bridgeman, *Wigan Ch.* (Chet. Soc.), pt. iii, for a full account of the bishop; also *Diet. Nat. Biog.*

After the rebuilding of the hall, and partly in consequence of instructions from

His descendants, however, made little use of it,²¹ and about 1760 a large part of the hall was demolished to save the expense of repairs.²² Sir Henry Bridgeman in 1793 obtained an Act of Parliament to enable him to let lands in Great Lever and elsewhere in Lancashire on building leases for 999 years.²³

Great Lever Hall stands in a high situation on the north side of the road from Bolton to Manchester, close to the former town. The River Croal flows on its north side along the bottom of the brow on which the house stands, and the site is naturally a defensive one, being directly accessible only from the west.

Of the first house of the Levers and Asshetons probably little or nothing remains, the oldest part of the present building being the work of Bishop Bridgeman, who rebuilt the house about 1630. The building has suffered very much from neglect and alterations. The plan is now one of great irregularity, and the greater part of the building is of modern construction, with elevations of brick or stucco. The house is divided into three portions, the oldest of which is used as the rectory for the parish of Great Lever. The eastern wing is entirely modernized and used as a Conservative Club, while a north-west wing, at right angles to the older part of the house, has been converted into cottages. There is nothing of interest in the east and north-west wings, but the centre (south-west) portion of the house, or rectory, retains a portion of the 17th-century timber front as built by Bishop Bridgeman, bearing his initials *L.B.* with the date 1631 in two ornamental panels. The rest of the rectory portion of the house has been a good deal altered, and is faced with brick or stucco. Opposite the principal front across the courtyard is a detached building containing the domestic chapel—built by Bishop Bridgeman in 1634 and consecrated two years later—with a house attached. The position of the chapel would almost suggest its having been originally situated at the east end of a former south wing of a house built on three sides of a courtyard, but there seems to be no record of the original hall having been thus planned. The chapel is now entirely detached and the court open at both ends. There has been so much destruction and rebuilding, however, that it

is difficult to say what the plan of the house was in Bishop Bridgeman's day. The timber front of the rectory facing the court is about 28 ft. wide and stands on a stone base 4 ft. high. The wall is coved at the first floor, and there is also a cove under the gable. There are no barge-boards to the gable, and the black and white filling is only paint on plaster. All the timber below, however, is genuine, including the tie-beams of the gable. The composition escapes the uniformity and monotony of a good deal of half-timber work by the use of straight uprights on the ground floor and reversed curved braces above, but more especially by the treatment of the long windows of thirteen lights, the sills of the three outside lights at each end of which are higher than the rest. The lead of the diamond quarries is very broad and painted white, with a white fillet painted on the glass on each side. The roofs of the old portion of the house, as well as of the chapel, are of grey stone slates, and the chimneys are of red brick, one of them, the principal stack on the south front, being of some architectural merit. The timber construction of the rectory house also shows on the north side. Most of the windows have been renewed and have moulded wood mullions, but some, with plain chamfers, are old. The interior arrangements are so much altered that the original plan of the house has been quite lost. There are no very remarkable features on the ground floor. The rooms are low, with old oak beams running across the ceilings, those in the kitchen being very massive and of great length; one of them is supported by a modern post, presumably replacing an ancient one. The floors both upstairs and down are very uneven owing to sinkings occasioned by mining operations. The dining-room has some oak panelling under the window, and high up on the wall over the fireplace are two small shields, one on each side, with the arms of Bridgeman. The staircase is cramped, and is obviously not the original one. Over the dining-room is the library, a handsome room running across the house at this point, and lit by a long window at each end. This room, which is under the timber gable facing the courtyard, is richly wainscoted on the west side and at the two ends, the detail consisting of pilasters and square and oblong panels, the latter along the

the king respecting the administration of church affairs, the bishop resided partly at Chester and partly at Lever; *Wigan Ch.* iii, 332, 334, 335. At p. 397 is given the contract by which certain Wigan colliers agreed to work the pits in the bishop's estate at Farnworth; he was to pay them 8d. for each quarter of coal or cannel raised.

During the Civil War the bishop suffered much for his loyal adherence to the king. He retired to Morton Hall, near Oswestry, and died there in 1652; *ibid.* 439-40.

²¹ Of Sir Orlando Bridgeman there is an account in *Wigan Ch.* iii, 455-50; also in *Dict. Nat. Biog.* He was born at Exeter in 1608, educated at Cambridge, called to the Bar in 1632, represented Wigan in Parliament 1640, and adhered firmly to the king's side in the Civil War; at the Restoration was created a baronet and made Chief Baron of the Exchequer, presided at the trial of the regicides, made Chief Justice of the Common Pleas, and became in 1667 Lord Chancellor. He seems to have resided very little at Lever,

his legal work requiring him to live in London or near it. He resigned the Great Seal in 1672, and died at Teddington in 1674. See also Pink and Beaven, *Parl. Repre. of Lancs.* 225; and G.E.C. *Complete Baronetage*, iii, 26. A settlement of the manors of Great Lever, Farnworth, and fourth part of Bolton was made in 1658 by Orlando Bridgeman and John his son and heir apparent; *Pal. of Lanc. Feet of F. bde.* 163, m. 124. Sir Orlando was summoned by the heralds in 1664, but no pedigree is recorded in Lancashire; *Dugdale, Visit.* (Chet. Soc.), v. His son Orlando, the eldest by his second marriage, was also created a baronet in 1673.

The eldest son by the first marriage, Sir John Bridgeman, was born at Great Lever in 1631; *Wigan Ch.* iii, 337. He and his descendants appear to have made Castle Bromwich, or Weston-under-Lizard, their chief residence; he died in 1710. The manor of Lever has descended as follows:—*s.* Sir John Bridgeman, d. 1747; —*s.* Sir Orlando, d. 1764; —*s.* Sir Henry, created Baron Bradford of Bradford in Shropshire in 1794, d. 1800; —*s.* Sir

Orlando, represented Wigan as a Tory from 1780 to 1800, created Viscount Newport and Earl of Bradford in 1815, d. 1844; —*s.* Sir George Augustus Frederick Henry, 2nd earl, d. 1865; —*s.* Sir Orlando George Charles, 3rd earl, d. 1898; —*s.* Sir George Cecil Orlando, b. 1845, the present Earl of Bradford and lord of Great Lever. This account is from G.E.C. *Complete Baronetage*, iii, 26-8; and his *Complete Peerage*, ii, 4-5. Orlando Bridgeman, youngest son of Sir John Bridgeman, represented Wigan as a Tory from 1698 to 1705; *Pink and Beaven*, op. cit. 231, 232; see p. 237; also Kenyon MSS. in *Hist. MSS. Com. Rep.* xiv, App. iv, 425, 429, 442, 453, 455.

There was a recovery of the manors of Great Lever and Farnworth, &c., in 1755, Sir Orlando Bridgeman and Henry Bridgeman being vouches; *Pal. of Lanc. Plea R.* 583, m. 4. There was another recovery in 1780, Henry Simpson Bridgeman being tenant; *ibid.* R. 632, m. 7 d.

²² *Notitia Cestr.* ii, 99, quoting Dorning Raebtham (1788).

²³ *Ibid.* note by Canon Raines.

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top under a classic cornice, and elaborately carved. The fireplace has Ionic pilasters, and the whole is a good specimen of Renaissance woodwork. The ceiling is of plaster divided by beams into four bays, the two end ones having ornamental plaster-work, and the middle ones being plain. In the bay at the west end of the ceiling are the arms of the see of Chester on a large shield surrounded by strap-work with four smaller shields, one at each corner, bearing the arms of Bridgeman. The east wall has apparently been rebuilt after the demolition of the part of the house on that side, and is quite plain. Another room on the first floor is also panelled in oak, but is less rich in detail.²⁵

Samuel Pepys, writing under date 10 November 1662, refers to some heraldic glass in the windows at Great Lever, but this, if it were ever placed there, has now disappeared. There is now no painted or heraldic glass in any of the windows of the house.²⁶

The chapel, which is dedicated in honour of the Holy Trinity, is built of brick on a stone base. It stands about 40 ft. to the south of the house, from which it is separated by a courtyard paved with cobbles. A stone wall at one time inclosed the court on the east side, but this has now given way to a lattice screen. The chapel occupies the east portion of a detached building, the total length of which is about 57 ft., and the western half of which is a dwelling-house, now a cottage, with a timber front to the courtyard. The brickwork of the outer walls of the chapel is yellow-washed, and the roof is covered with grey stone slates. Inside the chapel is now quite bare, and a movable wood floor has been inserted above the original tiled one, which raises the floor level about 10 in. The interior, which measures 27 ft. in length and 16 ft. 6 in. in width, is lighted at the east end by a window of eight lights with stone mullions and double transoms, under a four-centred arch with external hood-moulding. The lights of the two lower tiers have rounded heads, those in the head of the window under the arch being plain. There is a square-headed six-light window on each side of the chapel, north and south, with stone mullions and transoms, the heads of the top lights only being rounded. The entrance is at the west end of the north side, the doorway having a four-centred arch, and the door being the original one of oak, nail-studded. The glass is all plain and in square quarries. The walls and ceiling, which partly follows the line of the roof, are plastered. A description of the chapel written²⁷ in 1787 speaks of it as being no longer in use, but of marriages having been solemnized there before 1764-7. 'At the end, opposite to the altar,

to which there is an ascent of two steps,' says the writer, 'is a gallery formerly for the use of the family, and a bench runs round the chapel below.' The gallery no longer remains, but its position is marked by the coupled roof-trusses about 5 ft. apart at the west end. The ridge of the roof does not coincide with the centre line of the chapel, but is slightly to the south of it, making an irregular gable at the ends. The ends of the two roof-trusses rest on the wall in the usual way on the south side, but on the north they project in front of the wall and carry the roof in the form of a penthouse further forward over the entrance doorway. This may have served originally as shelter to a doorway higher up in the wall, giving access to the gallery from the outside, the bricked-up opening of which may still be seen. There is a door out of the chapel opposite the entrance into the adjoining house, which may have been originally the house of the chaplain. A bell belonging to the chapel is still kept at the hall, though it has not been in use for a very long time. It may have hung from the projecting ends of the chapel roof principals over the doorway. It bears the inscription RAF ASH TOW C, K.

To the west of the hall is a stone boundary wall and gateway, on the head of which are the initials of Bishop Bridgeman (I. B.) and the date 1631, as on the timber front of the house. Farther to the west again was until recently one of the finest barns in the district, with timbers of enormous size. Part of this, however, has been demolished to make way for a new schoolhouse, and the portion which remains has been refaced at the end and between the timbers in brick, but enough is left to show the strength and massiveness of the original timber construction.

Robert son of Roger de Middleton, who may have acquired the right of Henry de Lever,²⁸ about 1300 granted to Sir Roger de Pilkington and Margery his wife all his lands in Great Lever, with a moiety of the waste.²⁹ In 1332 Roger de Pilkington, son of Sir Roger, granted the same to his brother Richard.³⁰ A later Sir Roger de Pilkington in 1378 exchanged his lands in Great Lever with Adam de Lever the younger, receiving from the latter certain lands in Kearsley; the exchange was to be for life only, but the Pilkingtons do not seem to have had any further interest in the township.³¹

BURNDEN was an estate of the priory of Birkenhead. Robert the prior granted to Siward son of Robert the chaplain of Deane an acre in Great Lever by the hill of Burnden, above the road from Bolton to Lever, and land by Bolton Brook, at a rent of 6d. on St. James's Day.³² The Burnden family are

²⁵ In Bishop Bridgeman's correspondence, under date Aug. 1631, there is mention of the birth of a grandchild in 'the chamber next to the Lord's chamber under the study gallery,' in Great Lever. The family must therefore have been living in one part of the house (probably now demolished) while the new buildings were in progress.

²⁶ The passage in Pepys' Diary is as follows:—'By-and-by come in Mr. Swinfen, the Parliament-man, who, among the discourse of the rise and fall of families, told us of Bishop Bridgeman (father of Sir Orlando), who lately hath bought a seat anciently of the Levers, and then the Ashtons; and so he hath in his great hall window (having repaired and beautified the

house) caused four great places to be left for coats of arms. In one he hath put the Levers, with this motto "Olim." In another the Ashtons with this, "Heri." In the next his own, with this, "Hodie." In the fourth nothing, but this motto, "Cras nescio cujus." Quoted in Bridgeman, *Wigan Ch. iii*, 331.

²⁷ By Dornig Rasbotham.

²⁸ In 1302 Alice widow of Henry de Lever claimed dower against Matthew son of Henry de Lever, and against Robert son of Roger de Middleton, respecting lands in Middleton; De Banco R. 141, m. 176.

²⁹ Lever Chartul. no. 32; William de Lever was a witness. Lands in Great Lever were among the Pilkington estates in 1322; *Cal. Close*, 1318-23, pp. 610, 648.

³⁰ Lever Chartul. no. 91, 92; the former of these grants includes half the waste, but the latter only the fourth part.

³¹ Ibid. no. 101.

³² Lever Chartul. no. 1; Lever is described as a 'vill.' By another charter R. Prior of Birkenhead gave to Gervase son of Robert the Chaplain of Deane the house of Alward brother of Henry son of Leising de Lever, land between the house of Ellis and the hill, and a moiety of Goldrunsnape; this last was bounded as follows—the road between Lever and Bolton, the ascent by Burnden (Bruvel Dene) to the great oak, thence across to the syke and to the head of Brun Hill, thence by the valley to the waste by the thorn, and so to the start; *ibid.* no. 207.



GREAT LEVER HALL



GREAT LEVER HALL : OLD CHAPEL

mentioned later, but about 1300 their estate was sold to Adam de Lever.³³ Lands in Burnden were afterwards held by a branch of the Lever family.^{33a} Priestcroft also gave a surname to the family who held it of the local lords.³⁴

The Hultons of Farnworth had a small estate in Great Lever,³⁵ which in 1611 was stated to be held of Sir Richard Assheton of Middleton, by the hundredth part of a knight's fee.³⁶ Richard Chisnall held land here in 1587;³⁷ and Andrew Lever was a freeholder in 1600.³⁸

In 1787 the Duke of Bridgewater paid half the

land tax; Ellis Crompton and Thomas Boardman were the other contributors.³⁹

As already stated, Bishop Bridgeman provided a domestic chapel at the hall, which for a time appears to have been used by the residents, who were almost all his tenants.⁴⁰ Apart from this there seems to have been no church or chapel in the township till recent times. For the Church of England St. Michael's was consecrated in 1851; the Earl of Bradford is the patron of the rectory.⁴¹ St. Simon and St. Jude's, built in 1900, is in the gift of trustees.

There is a Primitive Methodist chapel.

ROCHDALE

CASTLETON
SPOTLAND
BUTTERWORTH

HUNDERSFIELD :—
WUERDLE AND WARDLE
WARDLEWORTH

BLATCHINWORTH AND CAL-
DERBROOK
TODMORDEN AND WALSDEN

Recedham, Dom. Bk. ; Rachedale, 1242.

Excluding the large chapelry of Saddleworth, which lies entirely in Yorkshire, the parish of Rochdale has an area of 41,828½ acres, lying in a compact area, measuring 10½ miles from north to south, and 9 miles from east to west.¹ The high moorlands in the north and east are cloven by many streams, descending mainly to the south and west, among

them being the Roch,² from which the parish takes its name. This stream rises near the Yorkshire border, and flows south-west to join the Irwell at Radcliffe. It is joined near the town of Rochdale by the Beal from the east and the Spodden Brook from the north.

The ancient divisions or townships of the parish were Castleton (in which also stood the parish

³³ William the Taylor of Lever granted land to Jordan de Burnden, with common of pasture, &c., of the vill of Lever; the land of Gervase is mentioned; *ibid.* no. 2. Flode and Agnes, daughters of Siward de Burnden, granted to Jordan their uncle all their land and right in Great Lever; *ibid.* no. 3. To this deed John and William of Great Lever were witnesses.

John son of Jordan de Burnden in 1291 sold to Adam son of John de Lever that part of his land which was held of the Prior of Birkenhead; *ibid.* no. 49.

Margery widow of John de Burnden released (? to Adam de Lever) her right in lands formerly held by her husband of Adam de Lever and the Prior of Birkenhead; *ibid.* no. 4. Thomas son of John de Burnden sold all his land in the vill of Lever to Adam de Lever; and in 1310 Robert son of John de Burnden released his right to the lands sold by his brother Thomas; *ibid.* no. 5, 78.

^{33a} In 1411-12 Hugh Lethor gave to feoffees his lands in Great Lever and the reversion of the dower of Avice widow of John Burnden; and the feoffees transferred the same to Roger son of Adam Lever—possibly the lord of the manor at the time. Roger Lever also acquired lands in Halgh and Tonge, Bolton, &c., between 1415 and 1432. In 1435-6 Christopher Southworth released his right to the third part of the lands given by Roger Lever the elder to John Coventry, vicar of Bolton, and Roger Ward, for the fulfilment of his will; which will ordained 'that the said lands should be to the said Roger the elder and Margaret his wife for life, and after to Roger son of the said Margaret and his heirs male'; and in default successively to Hector, Janet, Margaret, Elizabeth, and Margery, brother and sisters of Roger the younger. There is a note

in the margin :—'This Roger the younger was a bastard.' Later, Margaret daughter of Roger Lever the elder gave to Adam son of Roger Lever the younger all the lands she had from her father in Great Lever and Bolton. The same Adam son of Roger in 1485-6 received further lands in Bolton. (The above deeds were in the possession of Adam Lever of Great Lever in 1603; *ibid.* fol. 52.)

Giles son and heir of Adam Lever occurs in 1506 and 1509; *ibid.* no. 208-10. Adam the son and heir of Giles had a dispute with Ralph Ashton respecting a rent of 9s. due for his lands in Great Lever and the bounds; he was a minor in 1524, and had a brother William; *ibid.* no. 211-15. The boundaries of the estate in Burnden, consisting of two portions of land, are given in no. 213; they began at a within tree beside the Kirklands. Ralph Ashton and his heirs were to have the portion lying to the north of the meres and bounds fixed by the arbitrators, while Adam Lever and his heirs took that to the south.

In 1593 Andrew Lever and Adam his son sold all his lands in Great Lever and Bolton to Ralph Assheton, but in 1599 the latter sold them lands in Bolton; *ibid.* no. 216, 218; *Pal. of Lanc. Feet of F. bde.* 55, m. 183. Andrew Lever had sold lands in 1583; *ibid.* bde. 45, m. 68.

³⁴ William son of Henry de Lever granted to William son of Robert the land called Priestcroft, the bounds including the road to Manchester, the Millshaw Brook, and Osbornesclough, at a rent of 12d.; *Lever Chartul.* no. 7. Henry de Lever, lord of Lever, the son of William, made two fresh grants to William son of Robert, or William de Priestcroft; *ibid.* no. 6, 8. William de Priestcroft granted his land there to Alan his son; *ibid.* no. 9.

John son of Adam de Lever in 1302 warranted to Alan son of William de Priestcroft all the liberties in Great Lever enjoyed by his predecessors; *ibid.* no. 75. Adam de Lever, apparently the father of John, in 1302 and 1305 made further grants to Alan de Priestcroft and Ellen his wife; *ibid.* no. 76, 77.

³⁵ It is named in the inquisition (1508) after the death of John Hulton in 1487, and stated to be held of Peter Shakerley by services unknown; *Duchy of Lanc. Inq. p.m.* iii, no. 26.

³⁶ *Lancs. Inq. p.m.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), iii, 468, 470.

³⁷ *Duchy of Lanc. Inq. p.m.* xiv, no. 39; it is stated to have been held of the lord of Manchester.

³⁸ *Misc.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), i, 250. He was no doubt the Andrew Lever mentioned in the note on Burnden.

³⁹ Returns at Preston.

⁴⁰ *Wigan Ch.* iii, 394, 395. In 1636 the chapel of the Holy Trinity was consecrated. It had 'a square table at the upper end,' and was provided with Bible, Communion books, psalters, &c. At one time it was used as a warehouse. About 1850 it was restored, and used as a school from 1852 to 1862. It was also used for a time for public worship in 1880.

⁴¹ It was declared a rectory in 1867; *Lond. Gaz.* 25 Jan.

¹ A description of the parish boundary made in 1609 is printed in Baines, *Lancs.* (ed. 1868), i, 489. See also the survey of the manor, 1610, as below, now in the Free Library.

An elaborate *Hist. of the Parish of Rochdale*, by Lieut.-Colonel Henry Fishwick, F.S.A., appeared in 1889; much use has been made of it in the present account.

² The old spelling was Rach or Rached.

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church), Spotland, Butterworth, and Hundersfield.³ Their boundaries were, speaking roughly, lines drawn to the four points of the compass from a point to the north of the church. Afterwards Hundersfield was parted into four townships; while in recent years the ancient divisions have been almost entirely obliterated, for the township of Rochdale has been formed in the south, Todmorden has, for administrative purposes, been taken into Yorkshire, and part of Brandwood into Bacup; the remainder of the parish is divided into the modern townships of Milnrow, Littleborough, Wardle, Whitworth, and Norden.⁴

The population of the part of Rochdale within the administrative county in 1901, comprising

32,532 acres, numbered 120,433; the districts separately were as follows:—Castleton, 40,699; Spotland, 19,137; Wardleworth, 20,272; Whitworth and Wardle, 20,918; Littleborough, 11,166; Milnrow, 8,017.

Various prehistoric remains have been found, chiefly in the hills; a Roman road over Blackstone Edge is still visible, and part of a silver statue of Victory, coins, &c., have been found.⁵ The whole parish appears to have been a single lordship in 1066; the date at which Saddleworth⁶ was separated from Lancashire does not appear; the Lacys added it to their forest. There seems to have been only one manor properly so called, but the Holts of Stubley



³ These townships are found in the subsidy roll of 1332, printed by the Record Society of Lancs. and Ches.

⁴ The arrangement was sanctioned in 1894; it followed the lines of the existing local board districts; see Local Govt. Bd. Orders 31646 and 32287. Milnrow includes the greater part of Butterworth,

with parts of Castleton and Spotland; Littleborough includes the whole of Blatchinworth and Calderbrook, with parts of Butterworth and Wuerdle and Wardle; Wardle is composed of part of the old Wuerdle and Wardle, and a small part of Butterworth; Whitworth and Norden are formed out of Spot-

land, being its northern and central portions.

⁵ Fishwick, *Rochdale*, 3-13; *Lancs. and Ches. Antiq. Soc.* xvi, 171; xvii, 233.

⁶ No account of Saddleworth is given in the present work, but considerable materials will be found among the Raines MSS. in the Chetham Library

once held a share of the inferior manor, and were the principal resident family. A considerable part of the land was held by the abbey of Whalley and other ecclesiastical bodies. Thus numerous minor families sprang up, generally ranking as yeomen, each hamlet or farm almost affording a surname,⁷ and the history of the district during the mediaeval period was comparatively uneventful.

The 16th century introduced a great change. Rochdale was one of the towns in which the aulnager was to have a resident deputy, according to the Act of 1565. Camden in 1582 described it as 'a market town well frequented.'^{7a} Manufacturing and mining industries became important;⁸ the confiscation of the Whalley lands and the general suppression of religious houses produced a new race of landlords, whose number was increased by the sale of Byron estates in the early part of the 17th century.⁹ About that time also many wastes appear to have been inclosed. For the old tax called the fifteenth, the townships paid thus:—Castleton, 15s. 8d.; Spotland, £1 17s.; Butterworth, £1 1s.; and Hundersfield £1 12s. 4d., or £5 6s. for the parish—when the hundred of Salford had to contribute £41 14s. 4d. in all.¹⁰ The county lay, fixed in 1624, provided that Castleton should pay £1 9s., Spotland and Butterworth each £2 18s., and Hundersfield £4 7s.—£11 12s. in all—when the hundred paid £100.¹¹

The Protestation of 1641-2 was signed by nearly 2,100 inhabitants, 'none refusing.'¹²

In addition to those who recorded pedigrees in 1664-5 it appears that Joshua and Thomas Buckley and Edward Leigh were summoned.¹³

During the Civil War the people of Rochdale were generally on the side of the Parliament,¹⁴ as might be expected in a Puritan district. A number of the gentry and others joined the king, but they seem to have made peace with the Parliament early.¹⁵ The passage from Yorkshire was guarded, by the care of Colonel Rosworm, by a small force which could call upon a garrison at Rochdale;¹⁶ but there was no fighting within the parish. Since that time its history is a history of the growth of its trade;¹⁷ the invasion of 1745 did not touch it. A volunteer force was raised in 1794 on account of the war with France.¹⁸

Some notion of the importance of the parish may be gleaned from the hearth-tax returns of 1666. In Rochdale and Wardleworth there were 228 hearths

liable; the largest houses were those of James Brearley (perhaps an inn), with ten hearths; James Scofield, nine; Gabriel Gartside and Sarah Leach, seven each; Edward Lee, Robert Stringer, John Hamer, Joshua Stansfeld, Judy Roades, Edmund Holme, and Joseph Dearden, six each. In Spotland, nearer side, were 156 hearths; James Chadwick with seven, Ellis Haslam and Thomas Baskerville with six each, had the largest houses. In Spotland, further side, were 150 hearths taxable, but no house had as many as six. In Wuerdle, Wardle, and Blatchinworth were 199 hearths; the largest houses being those of Robert Holt, with eleven hearths; Alexander Kershaw, Mary Scholfield, and Samuel Hamer, eight each; and James Halliwell, six. In Todmorden and Walsden were 94 hearths in houses with less than six hearths. In Butterworth freehold side, 120 hearths were taxed; Alexander Butterworth's house had fourteen and Samuel Newbold's nine, but no other had more than five; in the lordship side were 101 hearths, no house having as many as six. In Castleton were 219 hearths; Robert Holt had fifteen, Henry Pigot (the vicar), and Grace Harper seven each, and Matthew Hollas six.¹⁹ The total for the parish was 1,267 hearths.

Celia Fiennes, writing about 1700, after describing the crossing of Blackstone Edge, from which she surveyed the country below, 'as a fruitful valley, full of enclosures and cut hedges and trees,' proceeds: 'From the foot of this Blackstone I went to Rochdale, four miles; a pretty neat town, built all of stone. Here I went to an acquaintance's house (Mr. Taylor) and was civilly entertained. Here is a good large meeting-place well filled; these parts religion does better flourish than in places where they have better advantages.'²⁰ Defoe about 1724 described Rochdale as 'a good market town, and of late much improved in the woollen manufacture, as are also the villages in its neighbourhood.'²¹

The first stage coach to Manchester began to run in 1790. The canal to Sowerby Bridge was opened in 1788, and the continuation to Manchester in 1804.²² The Manchester and Leeds Railway was opened in 1838.

Rochdale led the way in co-operative trading, the Equitable Pioneers' Society having been founded in 1844.²³

The woollen trade has long been the staple industry; coatings, baize, flannel, friezes, and carpets being manufactured. Calicoes also are made, as well

⁷ See for instance the names of donors and witnesses in the numerous Rochdale charters in the *Whalley Coucher* (Chet. Soc.). The court rolls, which go back to 1324, and the subsidy rolls also give evidence. Two of the latter (1381 and 1523) are printed in Fishwick, *Rochdale*, 34, 36.

^{7a} *Brit.* (ed. 1695), 745. Details of some merchants' complaints of the time of Elizabeth are printed in Fishwick, *op. cit.* 40-4, where it is shown that the hat trade was probably established about that time.

⁸ An iron mine in Whitworth was worked as early as 1338; and coal mines are mentioned in 1576 and 1585; Fishwick, *Rochdale*, 84, 43, 24. The survey of the manor made in 1610 says that there was no lead mine but one coal mine; that of 1626 records two coal mines in Butterworth, 'very beneficial to the occupiers'; Raines MSS. (Chet. Lib.), i, 109; *xxi*, 58.

⁹ A long list of freeholders in 1600 is printed in *Misc.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), i, 246-51. About forty are in Rochdale.

¹⁰ Gregson, *Fragments* (ed. Harland), 18.

¹¹ *Ibid.* 22. At a somewhat later date the divisions of Hundersfield were as follows:—(1) Wardleworth, (2) Middle Hundersfield, (3) Walsden and Todmorden; Raines MSS. (Chet. Lib.), i, 8.

¹² The lists are printed in full in Fishwick, *Rochdale*, 541-52.

¹³ Dugdale, *Visit.* (Chet. Soc.), v.

¹⁴ Thus Colonel Ralph Assheton of Middleton had no difficulty in obtaining supplies in 1643 from the Rochdale people; 'the country people furnished him with all speed'; *War in Lancs.* (Chet. Soc.), 31.

¹⁵ Richard Holt of Stubley and Castleton, Alexander Butterworth of Belfield, and Gabriel Gartside of Butterworth compounded.

¹⁶ *War in Lancs.* 43; *Civil War Tracts* (Chet. Soc.), 146.

Col. Assheton wrote to Colonel Moore on 18 March 1643-4 that 'about 5,000 Scots are come this night to Rochdale and marching towards Sir William Brereton'; *Hist. MSS. Com. Rep.* x, App. iv, 71.

¹⁷ A Rochdale man named Valentine Holt is said to have joined the Young Pretender at Manchester, and to have been shot at Carlisle; Fishwick, *op. cit.* 57.

¹⁸ *Ibid.* 60.

¹⁹ Subs. R. bdl. 250, no. 9, Lancs.

²⁰ *Through England on a Side-Saddle*, 186, 187.

²¹ Quoted in Fishwick, *Rochdale*, 57; some later travellers' accounts are added. See also *Local Gleanings Lancs. and Ches.* ii, 17.

²² Fishwick, *op. cit.* 59.

²³ See Baines, *Lancs.* (ed. 1868), i, 498, 499.

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as silk plush and velvet. There are foundries and machine works. This applies chiefly to the town of Rochdale, and in a smaller degree to Littleborough and Todmorden; but cotton and woollen factories are spread all over the parish, the numerous water-courses having been utilized by manufacturers. Stone is obtained at Blackstone Edge, and Spotland contains extensive quarries of flags and freestone; there are collieries in Spotland, Butterworth, and near Littleborough, and chemical works at Walsden.

The following is the present apportionment of the agricultural land:—Arable land, 484 acres; permanent grass, 14,896; woods and plantations, 135. Details are as follows:—

	Arable acres	Grass acres	Woods, &c. acres
Castleton . . .	352	1,527	8
Milnrow . . .	12	2,966	1
Littleborough . . .	6	2,929	80
Wardle . . .	22	1,883	—
Norden . . .	28	2,122	9
Whitworth . . .	4	1,767	8
Rochdale . . .	60	1,702	29

The Lower Coal Measures extend over the southern and central portions of the parish, with some patches of the Middle Coal Measures around the town of Rochdale. In the eastern and western portions large areas of the Millstone Grit Series protrude through the Lower Coal Measures.

Some of the Byrons, lords of the manor, attained distinction, and among the later vicars there have been noteworthy men, but the most conspicuous of the natives of the parish is John Bright, the famous Radical orator. He was born, in 1811, at Greenbank near Rochdale, where his father had a mill; entered Parliament in 1843, was a leader of the Anti-Corn Law League, became President of the Board of Trade in 1868, and held other offices. He died at his residence, One Ash, near Rochdale, on 27 March 1889.²⁴ His younger brother, Jacob Bright, also took part in public affairs; he died in 1899.²⁵

Roger Brerely or Brierley, founder of the 17th-century sect of Grindletonians, is believed to have been a Rochdale man. He died at Burnley in 1637.²⁶ The Lancashire poet, Edwin Waugh, who wrote poems in the local dialect remarkable both for humour and pathos, 1817–90, is another celebrity. William Nuttall, d. 1840, wrote *Rochdale, a Fragment*.²⁷

'Tim Bobbin' lived at Milnrow, and the 'Whitworth doctors' were famous a century ago. Canon Raines of Milnrow was a distinguished antiquary.

The date of the rush-bearing was the third Sunday in August at Rochdale.²⁸ A custom of 'going to Knoll Hill or Blackstone Edge on the first Sunday in May used to prevail.²⁹

A club, supposed to have been Jacobite, met at Rochdale from 1712 onwards, and called itself the 'Honourable Corporation of Rochdale.'³⁰

Several tradesmen's tokens were issued at Rochdale and Milnrow in the 17th century.³¹

The first printer known was Mark Nield, 1796.³² The first theatre was a little earlier.³³

Two newspapers are now printed at Rochdale: *Observer*, 1856, and *Times*, appearing twice weekly.³⁴ A weekly paper, the *News*, is published at Littleborough, and three appear at Todmorden—*Advertiser*, *News*, and *Herald*.

Knoll Hill, Brown Wardle, Blackstone Edge, and other hill-tops formerly had beacons.³⁵

The stocks at Rochdale used to be just outside the churchyard; on the post are cut the letters W. W. and 1666.³⁶

In 1066 *ROCHDALE* was held by *MANOR* Gamel, one of the twenty-one thegns of Salford Hundred, who was free of all customs except six; his holding was assessed as 2 hides or 12 plough-lands.³⁷ A reduction was afterwards made in this to 8 plough-lands. Before 1212 the whole manor had been given to the lord of Clitheroe and was held by Roger de Lacy.³⁸ It descended like Clitheroe,³⁹ and thus came to the Earls and Dukes of Lancaster and finally to the Crown.⁴⁰ Charles I, in 1625, sold the manor to trustees for the

²⁴ *Dict. Nat. Biog.*

²⁵ *Ibid.*

²⁶ Fishwick, *Rochdale*, 535; *Dict. Nat. Biog.*

²⁷ *Dict. Nat. Biog.*

²⁸ A. Burton, *Rushbearing*, 71; Harland and Wilkinson, *Legends and Traditions*, 112–20 (where the date is given as 19 August).

²⁹ Fishwick, *op. cit.* 534.

³⁰ See J. P. Earwaker in *Trans. Hist. Soc.* (new ser.), iv, 93–120; the record roll is printed.

³¹ *Lancs. and Ches. Antiq. Soc.* v, 90, 86.

³² *Local Gleanings Lancs. and Ches.* i, 43, 50; ii, 85; Fishwick, *op. cit.* 530; and in *Pal. Note Bk.* iv, 12.

³³ Fishwick, *op. cit.* 530.

³⁴ Earlier newspapers were the *Recorder*, 1827, and the *Sentinel*, 1853; they did not continue very long; Baines, *Lancs.* i, 503, 504.

³⁵ Fishwick, *op. cit.* 537.

³⁶ *Ibid.* For the crosses of Rochdale see *Lancs. and Ches. Antiq. Soc.* xxii, 126–31.

³⁷ See *V.C.H. Lancs.* i, 287. The six excepted customs were theft, heinfare, forestel, breach of the peace, not keeping the term set by the reeve, and continuing a fight after oath given; the fine for such was

40s. Gamel is supposed to be the same man as the Gamel who in 1086 held 2 plough-lands in the hundred as one of the knights of Roger of Poitou.

³⁸ *Lancs. Inq. and Extents* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), i, 38–40. Rochdale does not seem to have been part of the five knights' fees of Clitheroe, and no indication is given as to the time or manner of its acquisition by the Lacys.

It may be noticed that in the early 13th century Rochdale is described as a wapentake; *Whalley Coucher* (Chet. Soc.), iii, 684. See also *Lancs. and Ches. Rec.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), i, 12; ii, 240, 291.

³⁹ See the account of the honour of Clitheroe. In 1241–2 the lands of John de Lacy included Rochdale with the apurtenances, held for 37s. 10d.; Hugh de Eland also paid £8; *Lancs. Inq. and Extents*, i, 157.

The accounts of the lands of Henry de Lacy in 1296 and 1305 show that the profits of the manor amounted to about £24 a year; *De Lacy Comptrol.* (Chet. Soc.), 7, 96, 101–2. Part was within the forest; *ibid.* 16. In 1311 the receipts from Castleton (Rochdale) were returned as £9 5s. 6d.; *De Lacy Inq.* (Chet. Soc.), 20.

⁴⁰ John, Duke of Lancaster, in 1383 leased to Robert de Needham his demesne lands in Castleton and the mill there; *Duchy of Lanc. Misc. Bks.* xiv, fol. 108d.

Henry de Lacy, in December 1281, granted to Adam de Balshaw in fee the serjeanty of his free court of Rochdale in exchange for land in Rossendale and 'Holkenheved,' at a rent of 2 marks a year; *Byron Chartul.* (Towneley MS.), 1/248. In 1298, accordingly, the 'heir of Adam de Balshaw' paid 26s. 8d. for the bedelry; *Comptrol.*, 7; and in 1311 the holder was John de Balshaw; *De Lacy Inq.* 20.

John de Balshaw, probably the same man, in 1341 sold the bailiwick of the serjeanty to John de Radcliffe; *Byron Chartul.* 9/249. It accordingly appears in the Radcliffe of Ordsall inquisitions of 1380 and 1422, as held by knight's service and a rent of 26s. 8d.; at the latter date it was stated that the outgoings exceeded the profits; *Lancs. Inq. p.m.* (Chet. Soc.), i, 9, 148.

At Pentecost 1352 John de Radcliffe the elder complained that the Abbot of Whalley, one of his monks, and 'the Parson's man' had disseised him of the putres pertaining to his bailiwick; he claimed suitable meat and drink at the

Earl of Holderness,⁴¹ who immediately afterwards sold it to Sir Robert Heath, Attorney-General;⁴² and Sir Robert first mortgaged and then sold it to Sir John Byron in 1638.⁴³ In this family it remained⁴⁴ until in 1823 Lord Byron the poet sold it to James Dearden,⁴⁵ whose grandson, Mr. James Griffith-Dearden, is the present lord of the manor.⁴⁶ Manor courts are still held at Whitsuntide.⁴⁷



BYRON. *Argent three bendlets enhanced gules.*

There appears to have been no manor-house in Rochdale, the house so called, a red-brick building of no architectural distinction, on the north side of the river opposite the town hall, being rightly styled the Orchard.⁴⁸ This house was described as a new building in 1702, and was the residence of the Deardens before they purchased the manor.

Of more interest was the structure known as the Great House, or Amen Corner,⁴⁹ a stone building⁵⁰

which stood a little to the east of the Orchard, but was pulled down in 1910 for street improvements. At the time of its demolition it was probably the oldest house in Rochdale, though in a very dilapidated state, and quite surrounded by modern buildings. It was of two stories and had a frontage facing west of about 45 ft., with a large projecting central bay window going up both stories with six mullioned and transomed lights in front and two lights on the returns on each floor. In the 17th century the Great House stood in a large garden which sloped down to the river. An account of the house is extant as it stood in 1692, at which time it was already let in several portions, one consisting of 'the porch, the body of the house, the kitchen, the brewhouse, the buttery, the little parlour, the great parlour, the staircase, the great chamber over the house, and the chamber over the little parlour,' together with 'a place to lay coals in' and 'a garden of eight falls.' A second portion contained 'three chambers in the Great House'; two other chambers formed a third, and the rest of the rooms a fourth.⁵¹ It is clear, therefore, that the house was

abbot's table every Friday at noon and at supper and at breakfast the following (Saturday) morning for two of his under-bailiffs, and other putures on two other days in the year; Duchy of Lanc. Assize R. 2, m. 4. In 1360 an agreement was made; John de Radcliffe renounced his right to puture in Castleton and Whitworth, the abbot in return paying 12s. a year; Byron Chartul. 44/259.

John son of Sir John de Radcliffe of Ordsall in 1427 granted the bailiwick to Sir John de Byron for life, and in 1430 sold it outright; Byron Chartul. 4/253, 16/251. The Byrons had long held considerable lands in the manor, as will be seen from the township accounts; and from this time till the beginning of the 17th century were usually lessees of the manor from the Crown; the hereditary bailiwick was perhaps surrendered for the lease. See Fishwick, *Rochdale*, 21-6, where details are given of various disputes with the tenant. The last lease expired in 1619; Raines MSS. (Chet. Lib.), ii, 68.

In 1481 the king ordered Sir John Byron to allow Sir John Savile the younger to occupy the manor of Rochdale, assigned to him for ten years; Duchy of Lanc. Misc. Bks. xix, fol. 90. In 1499 a lease for forty years was granted to Nicholas Byron; *ibid.* xxi, fol. a/56 d.

⁴¹ Pat. 1 Chas. I, pt. 3; the grant included various mines and lands in Rochdale, Hundersfield, Spotland, Castleton, and Todmorden. The whole was to be held in socage of the manors of Greenwich and Enfield. See Raines MSS. ii, 68.

The sale was made originally by James I in August 1624, as appears by a grant of arrears of fines for copyhold lands made in 1626 to Anne daughter of Sir Thomas Lyon; Duchy of Lanc. Misc. Bks. xxv, fol. 86.

⁴² Fishwick, *op. cit.* 26. An inquisition on behalf of the Crown was made in 1610; the record was presented by Captain Clowes to the Rochdale Free Library, and a brief summary by Col. H. Fishwick appears in the *Rochdale Literary and Scientific Society's Transactions*, 1903. Castlehill was held of the king by Gabriel Taylor at a rent of 6s. 8d. Details of the Hospitallers' rents are given. There is an account of the common lands, and

of the improvements recently made. The market was held 'usually every Monday'; the fairs on 3 May, Whit Tuesday, and 28 October. There was no lead mine, but coal mines existed on Featherteam Common near Crook, at Trough in Spotland, Brown Wardle, Butterworth Common, and Micherden Clough in Walsden; and stone quarries in Brown Wardle, Middle Hill, and Farrett Moss. The court leet was held twice a year, and another court was held several times in the year, but there was no manor-house; and the king had no mill. The account of the copyhold lands is added.

A detailed survey of the manor was in 1626 made for Sir Robert Heath, a copy of which may be seen in Raines MSS. xxi. For a recovery of the manor in 1636 see Com. Pleas Recov. R. East. 12 Chas. I, m. 15.

⁴³ Fishwick, *op. cit.* 27. Inquiries as to the boundaries made from 1637 to 1639 may be seen in Raines MSS. i, 145; ii, 74; Duchy of Lanc. Spec. Com. no. 1178.

The earlier history of the Byron family will be found in the account of Clayton in Droylsden. After the sale of Clayton they retained Royton for a time, but this was sold about 1622 and afterwards the family had no residence in Lancashire.

Sir John Byron, the purchaser of Rochdale, was an active partisan of the king in the Civil War, and in 1643 was created Baron Byron of Rochdale. An account of him will be found in Collins, *Peerage* (ed. 1779), vii, 129-36. He died in 1652 in France, and was succeeded by his brother Richard, in virtue of the limitations in the patent. See also *Dict. Nat. Biog.*

The manor of Rochdale shared in the sequestration of the Byron lands by the Commonwealth authorities; Fishwick, *op. cit.* 27.

⁴⁴ For the descent see Collins, *loc. cit.*; and G.E.C. *Complete Peerage*, ii, 98-100.

The following fines and recoveries of the manor may be given for reference: In 1703 William (4th Lord Byron) Baron of Rochdale, and Elizabeth dowager baroness, were deforciant in a fine respecting the manor of Rochdale, with its courts leet, courts baron, &c.; Pal. of Lanc. Feet of F. bde. 250, m. 120. In 1744, in a recovery of the manor, Wil-

liam (5th) Lord Byron was vouchee; Pal. of Lanc. Plea R. 561, m. 3. In a recovery in 1773 William Byron, esq., was tenant; *ibid.* 618, m. 8; Com. Pleas, Recov. R. Trin. 13 Geo. III, m. 136.

⁴⁵ The particulars are given in Fishwick, *op. cit.* 29, 30. The sale was hastened by a long suit between the Byrons and Deardens as to the right of getting coal.

⁴⁶ For pedigree see Raines MSS. iii, 17, 18; James Dearden, who died in 1791, was father of James the purchaser of the manor; the latter, by his will of 1828, left the manor to his son James, and died in the same year. The son, a barrister, died in 1862, leaving by his wife Jane Griffith a son and heir James, who in 1865 assumed the name of Griffith before Dearden.

The more extended pedigree recorded at the College of Arms is printed in Fishwick, *Rochdale*, 450.

⁴⁷ The rolls from 1323-5 are printed in *Lancs. Ct. R.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), 16-23, 141-50. Those for 1335 and 1336 are printed by Col. Fishwick, *op. cit.* 286-92; and in the same work will be found copious abstracts of the later rolls, 1566-7, and 1586-1624. Canon Raines also made very full notes of the rolls from 1591 to 1826; Raines MSS. vii; ii, 31-7; xiv, 293-332. See also Duchy of Lanc. Ct. R. bde. 78, no. 1006; bde. 78, no. 1025-7.

⁴⁸ The street now of that name is so called from the house.

⁴⁹ The name of Amen Corner is said to have arisen from the fact that in 1745 part of the building was occupied by the parish clerk, but another explanation is that the name arose from the proximity of a Presbyterian meeting-house. Probably the title Amen Corner was first bestowed on the immediate vicinity and then transferred to the house itself.

⁵⁰ In a deed of 1565 there is mention of a house in this position 'where Robert Garside dwelleth,' which seems to have been the Great House (see Fishwick, *Rochdale*, 523-4). The portion which was standing till 1910, however, was of 17th-century date, and may have been a rebuilding by Adam Garside about 1692.

⁵¹ Fishwick, *op. cit.* 523, where the title deeds are quoted.

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originally of some size, and that the building remaining in 1910 was but a fragment.

From the survey of 1212 it appears that the manor was held by a number of under-tenants. Hugh de Eland held 3 plough-lands and 2 oxgangs of land of Roger de Lacy, by a rent of 48s., and Roger had given the monks of Stanlaw 6 oxgangs in alms; thus one moiety of the manor is accounted for, and it appears from the later survey that Hugh de Eland paid a rent of 60s. in all. Of the other moiety one-third was granted by Roger to Robert de Flainsburch or Flamborough in marriage with the daughter of Robert de Liversedge, to be held by 20s. yearly; another third was granted by Roger at the same rent to Gilbert de Lacy with Agnes daughter of John de Himerum or Hipperholm; while the remaining third was held by Roger de Thornton and Thomas de Horbury by the same rent of 20s., making a total rent of 60s. from this moiety.⁵²

Each of these estates might be called a manor. The moiety of Hugh de Eland⁵³ descended to the Savile family,⁵⁴ and was in 1587 sold to Sir John Byron;⁵⁵ it has presumably become merged in the superior manor purchased in 1638. The sixth part of Robert de Flamborough was about 1292 surrendered to his lord, Henry de Lacy;⁵⁶ the sixth part held by Thornton and Horbury probably reverted to the lord also, as nothing further is known of it;⁵⁷ while the remaining sixth descended for some time in the family of Lacy of Cromwellbottom,^{57a} being sold about 1353 to Geoffrey son of John de Holt,⁵⁸ ancestor of the Holts of Stubley, and has probably been dissipated in the sale of the estates of this family.⁵⁹

Inclosures were made in the time of Queen Elizabeth.⁶⁰



ROCHDALE: AMEN CORNER

The Hospitallers had rents of 2s. and 6d. from Rochdale mill-house.⁶¹

⁵² *Inq. and Extents*, i, 38-40. Each separate township, and perhaps each then existing hamlet, was divided into moieties and distributed among the parceners. The following is believed to represent the shares:—

	Castleton Oxg.	Butterworth Oxg.	Spotland Oxg.	Hundersfield Oxg.
Hugh de Eland .	8	8	8	8
R. de Flamborough .	4	4	—	2½
R. de Thornton }	—	4	4	2½
T. de Horbury }	—	—	—	—
Gilbert de Lacy	4	—	4	2½

There is nothing to show how the various partitions were effected.

⁵³ The pedigree of the family is given in the *Whalley Coucher* (Chet. Soc.), ii, 641 n.

Hugh de Eland was in 1296 responsible for £7 19s. 9½d., farm of various lands held in Rochdale; *Compotus*, 6. In 1311 John de Eland held 1 plough-land in Hundersfield by homage and a service of 60s. yearly. The remainder of the Eland holding in 1212 had therefore been granted out, but John was responsible for the full ancient rent.

⁵⁴ From inquiries made in 1520 and 1521 it appears that one Thomas Savile in 1421 held the manor of Foulridge with lands and rents there, and in Rochdale, Inchfield, Todmorden, &c., of the king as of his duchy of Lancaster by the eighth part of a knight's fee and a rent of £8 1s. 8d.; his great-grandson Sir John Savile (son of John, son of John), who

died in 1505, was succeeded by Henry Savile his son, a minor, who was of age in 1520; *Duchy of Lanc. Inq. p.m.* ii, no. 11; v, no. 5, 32.

⁵⁵ In 1551 Sir Henry Savile and Robert Savile—believed to have been Sir Henry's illegitimate son—made a settlement of the manors of Foulridge, Inchfield, and Rochdale, with houses, lands, mills, dovecote, &c.; the remainders were to Robert Savile for a week, to Anne his wife for her life, to the same Robert and his male issue, in default to Sir Henry Savile and his male issue, in default to the male issue of Thomas Savile of Lupset, deceased, and in default to the right heirs of Sir Henry; *Pal. of Lanc. Feet of F. bdl.* 14, no. 223. In 1574 Robert Savile and Anne his wife granted a messuage, &c., in Rochdale to Peter Heywood for thirty-two years; *ibid.* bdl. 36, no. 91. Then in 1587 Sir John Byron and John Byron (his son) purchased from John Savile his manor of Rochdale with lands, &c., in Hundersfield, Butterworth, Spotland, and Castleton; *ibid.* bdl. 49, m. 14.

⁵⁶ Alice widow of Robert de Flamborough was plaintiff in 1246; *Assize R.* 1045, m. 53.

Robert de Liversedge seems to have been the actual holder of the sixth part of the manor; he had a son Roger, whose son and heir, Robert, resigned to Lacy; *Whalley Coucher*, ii, 706, 720.

⁵⁷ It may have been the basis of the holdings of the Chadderton and Prestwich families in Spotland, Ogden, &c.

^{57a} Henry de Lacy of Cromwellbottom in 1311 paid the old rent of 20s., but his tenement is described as no more than 'half a plough-land in Spotland'; *De Lacy Inq.* 20. A settlement of lands in Spotland, Hundersfield, Butterworth, and Castleton in Rochdale was made in 1326 in favour of Henry son of John de Lacy of Cromwellbottom, and Beatrice his wife; *Add. MS.* 32104, no. 467.

⁵⁸ In that year Geoffrey son of John de Holt had licence to agree with Henry son of John de Lacy, concerning the manor of Rochdale; and the latter granted him the services of his tenants, viz. the Abbot of Whalley, John de Byron, John de Radcliffe, Roger son of Maud Stikewind, and John de Savile and Isabel his wife; *Assize R.* 435, m. 18 d., 8.

Geoffrey de Holt was soon after his purchase engaged in disputes respecting lands in Hundersfield; *De Banco R.* 408, m. 79; 425, m. 301 d.; 432, m. 246.

A settlement of the Holt estates was made by Robert son of Geoffrey de Holt in 1388; *Final Conc.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), iii, 31.

⁵⁹ See further in the account of Stubley.

⁶⁰ A commission for dividing the wastes was granted in 1588; it was this which compelled Sir John Byron to purchase the Saviles' interest; *Fishwick, Rochdale*, 23-5. See also *Lancs. and Ches. Rec.* ii, 273, 286, 294.

⁶¹ From Robert Holt, 2s.; from Lawrence Buckley, 6d.; Rental, c. 1540, in *Kuerden MSS.* v, fol. 84.

The town of *ROCHDALE* lies in three of the ancient divisions of the parish, having grown up near the church, on both banks of the Roch. The road from Oldham going north, joined south of the church by the old road from Manchester, reaches the river to the north-east of the church, where the ancient bridge is built; from the further side of the bridge roads spread out in all directions. One going north, called Toad Lane, was the boundary between Wardleworth and Spotland; the market-place is situated in it, near the bridge.

In 1251 Edmund de Lacy procured *BOROUGH* a charter for a weekly market at Rochdale on Wednesday, and an annual fair on the feast of St. Simon and St. Jude (28 October).⁶² Probably about the same time a borough was created, but there were only twelve burgesses, and it quickly fell into decay.⁶³ The town continued to be governed through the manor court until 1825, when a Police Act was obtained.⁶⁴ As there was never any township of Rochdale, the area assigned to the new commissioners was a circle, with the old market-place as centre and a radius of three-quarters of a mile. In 1832 a parliamentary borough was created, one member being returned;⁶⁵ and in 1856 a municipal charter was granted, the powers and property of the old commissioners being conferred on the corporation in 1858. The town was divided into three wards—Castleton, with four aldermen and twelve councillors; Wardleworth, the same; and Spotland, two aldermen and six councillors.⁶⁶ In 1868 the parliamentary



BOROUGH OF ROCHDALE. *Sable on an escutcheon within an orle of eight martlets argent a woolpack within a wreath of laurel proper.*

boundary was extended to include Wardleworth, Spotland, Wuerdle, Belfield, Newbold, Buersill, and Marland;⁶⁷ and four years later the municipal boundary was extended so as to be almost coterminous with the parliamentary one, and the area was divided into ten wards, each with an alderman and three councillors.⁶⁸ The wards took their names from the townships, viz. Castleton (4), Spotland (2), Wardleworth (3), and Wuerdle. In 1894 the borough was constituted a township, the whole of Wardleworth being absorbed, with parts of Castleton, Spotland, and Wuerdle and Wardle.^{69a} In 1900 most of Castleton outside the borough was added, a new ward called Castleton Moor being thus formed;⁶⁹ so that the council now consists of a mayor, eleven aldermen, and thirty-three councillors. Under the Act of 1888 Rochdale became a county borough. It has a commission of the peace and a police force.

The town hall, by the Roch, to the north of the church, was built in 1870–1, and is a fine building, ranking high among modern examples of Gothic style;⁷⁰ a bronze statue of John Bright was erected in front of it in 1891. The free library was built in 1884.⁷¹ An art gallery was opened in 1903. There is a public park near the town hall; Falinge Park was presented to the town in 1903 by Alderman Samuel Turner. The baths were built in 1868. The cemetery in Bury Road was opened in 1855. Waterworks were first established in 1809;⁷² they were acquired by the corporation in 1866; the gas-works, begun in 1824, are also owned by the corporation,⁷³ as are the electric light works. An electric tramway system has been inaugurated. The market rights were purchased from Lord Byron in 1823;⁷⁴ the market hall, built in 1844, is still in the hands of a private company. The cattle market is in Manchester Road. A school board was formed in 1870.

⁶² *Cal. Chart. R.* 1226–57, p. 362. Margaret Countess of Lincoln then held the manor in dower. A fair was till recently held on 7 Nov., the eve of Old St. Simon's day.

Other fairs were also held; in 1588 there were two—on Whit Sunday and 23 (? 28) Oct.; Wm. Smith, *Descr. of Engl.* The toll and stallage of the markets and fairs produced 53s. 8d. in 1296, and 53s. 4d. in 1305, but were valued at only 30s. in 1311; *Lacy Compt.*, 6, 102; *Inq.* 20. The other manorial profits show similar variations. Thus the eighth part of the mill paid 5s. in 1296, but the fourth part only 4s. in 1311; the perquisites of the courts were £4 4s. 4d. and the fines for lands 43s. 2d. in the former year, but the value of the three-weeks court was given as only 26s. 8d. in 1311.

In 1292 Henry de Lacy was required to show by what warrant he held the market and fair; *Plac. de Quo Warr.* (Rec. Com.), 382.

The market day was changed from Wednesday to Monday during the 18th century, and Monday continues to be the manufacturers' market day; there is a provision market on Saturday. The market hall is open daily.

⁶⁶ John de Lacy (1211–40) gave a charter to his men of Rochdale and their heirs, acquitting them of the judges both in the county and the wapentake; pleas were to be held from month to month instead of from fortnight to fortnight, and in the pleas attorneys of knights and free men

might be received; Byron Chartul. 1/256. The charter of the borough does not seem to have been preserved; the statement that there had been twelve burgesses is derived from an inquisition of uncertain date quoted from Dods. MSS. clxi, by Baines, op. cit. (ed. 1868), i, 483. In 1296 there was received of the farm of the burgesses of Rochdale 6s.; this is not named in 1305 or in 1311; *Compt.*, 6. The burgesses are named in 1341–2; *Mins. Accts.* bdl. 1091, no. 6.

⁶⁴ 6 Geo. IV, cap. 128. The commissioners, with a qualification of £35 yearly value as owners or occupiers, had powers to watch, light, and cleanse the town. The chairman was entitled the chief constable. By an Act of 1844 the commissioners were made elective, the parliamentary voters, or £10 householders, having the right to elect. A further Improvement Act was obtained in 1853. See Baines, *Lancs.* (ed. 1868), i, 491–2.

What remained of the utility of the manor courts was destroyed by the formation of a Court of Request in 1839, and the County Court in 1847; Fishwick, op. cit. 30.

⁶⁵ The area was a little larger than that of the commissioners' authority, the three-quarters of a mile distance being measured from the edge of the market-place instead of from its centre. For the members, including Richard Cobden (1859–65), see Pink and Beaven, *Lancs. Parl. Repre.* 331–5.

⁶⁶ Baines, op. cit.

⁶⁷ Pink and Beaven, op. cit.; by the Act 31 & 32 Vict. cap. 46.

⁶⁸ Fishwick, *Rochdale*, 63; by the Act 35 & 36 Vict. cap. 49.

^{69a} Information of the Town Clerk. The old townships were abolished; Local Govt. Bd. Order 31646.

⁶⁹ Local Govt. Bd. Order P. 1639.

⁷⁰ Baines, i, 495; the corner-stone was laid in 1866. It stands on the site of an old house called the Wood; Fishwick, op. cit. 333–6.

⁷¹ A circulating library was established as early as 1770; Baines, *Lancs.* (ed. 1868), i, 501; *N. and Q.* (5th Ser.), ii, 113.

⁷² In 1760 there was a small reservoir in Leyland Brow near the church steps. It was in private hands and purchased by the company formed in 1809; Fishwick, op. cit. 62. See also Baines, op. cit. i, 494.

⁷³ A dispute as to the price charged for lighting the public lamps led to the Act of 1844, mentioned above, by which the gas-works were acquired by the commissioners.

⁷⁴ Fishwick, op. cit. 63; 'The old stalls in the streets were then done away with . . . The lord of the manor reserved the right to hold fairs, &c., and as late as 1872 the horse fair was held in Cheetham Street. The right was then purchased by the Corporation, who have provided ground for fairs and cattle markets.'

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The infirmary and dispensary, originally established in 1832, is now housed at the north side of the town, a new building having been given in 1883 and enlarged in 1896 and again in 1907.⁷⁵ Other public buildings in the town include union offices, county court offices, county police court, Temperance hall, Central hall, used for entertainments, and theatre. The 2nd V.B. Lancashire Fusiliers has its head quarters at Rochdale; there is a troop of yeomanry.

The church of *ST. CHAD* consists of *CHURCH* chancel with north and south aisles, nave with north and south aisles, south porch and west tower, with a vestry at the west end of each aisle north and south of the tower. It is finely placed on high ground about 80 ft. above the river, on the south side of the town, and is gained on the north side by a flight of 124 steps. These steps, reconstructed in 1810, were probably in existence in some form in the 17th century.⁷⁶

The site is an ancient one,⁷⁷ but the oldest part of the present church belongs to the 13th century, though fragments of Norman masonry are said to have been discovered in the renovation of 1815.⁷⁸ Whatever the earliest church may have been, the structure seems to have been entirely rebuilt on a large scale during the 13th century, the present nave pillars being of that date and probably in their original position. Of the 13th-century chancel no traces now remain, but it was apparently the same width as the nave, and of three bays or more in length.⁷⁹ The church of this date would apparently be not very much less in area than the building as it existed previous to the modern additions at the east end, and consisted of a chancel 19 ft. 6 in. wide and about 35 ft. long, nave of equal width and 60 ft. long, with north and south aisles, and probably a western tower.⁸⁰ The first change seems to have been the rebuilding of the tower in the 14th century, but whether any other work was done at this time, or whether the 13th-century church stood down to the middle part of the 16th century, it is impossible to say. Trinity Chapel on the south side of the chancel existed in 1487, and the chapel of St. Katherine on the north side was founded probably about the same time or a little earlier (it is mentioned in 1514), and it is likely that many other changes had been effected in the structure before the middle of the 16th century when (c. 1558) the greater part was rebuilt, the piers to the nave and chancel and the west tower alone being retained. This building stood substantially without change till the beginning of the 19th century.⁸¹

In 1815 the building was in a ruinous condition, but a proposal to take it down and rebuild it was

abandoned in favour of restoration.⁸² The work then done was supplemented in 1835 by a further restoration of the interior,⁸³ and again in 1854-5 when the north aisle was taken down and rebuilt, the galleries removed (a new west gallery, however, was erected), and the organ, which had been in the west gallery, transferred to the east end of the north aisle, which was extended so as to be flush with the east end of the chancel. The vestry, which then occupied the site of St. Katherine's Chapel north of the quire, was transferred to the west end of the north aisle, and the north aisle of the chancel was opened out. The chief work of rebuilding, however, was not begun till 1873, when the south aisle as far as the chancel, together with the south porch, was pulled down and rebuilt, and the tower raised by the addition of a lofty belfry and otherwise altered. In 1885 the chancel was entirely reconstructed⁸⁴ and extended, along with both north and south aisles, 25 ft. eastward, all traces of the old work being lost. The whole of the east end of the church and nearly all the work on the exterior of the building are therefore modern, and apart from the nave arcade and the lower part of the tower the building has little antiquarian interest.

The church is built of wrought stone, but on the north side is faced with parpoints, and the walls in the interior are plastered. The east gable has a plain coping with cross and angle pinnacles, and the walls to chancel, nave, and aisles have embattled parapets. The chancel roof is slightly higher than that of the nave, and both are covered with green slates, while those of the aisles are lean-to roofs covered with lead.

The chancel consists of six bays with an arcade of pointed arches, on clustered shafts open to the north and south aisles. It has a lofty clearstory of six square-headed three-light windows on each side, and a rich double hammer-beam roof with angel terminations. The quire stalls occupy the first four bays from the west, those to the first and second bays being old. The sixth bay contains the sanctuary, the fifth being open at each side to the aisles. The whole of the east end of the church being new possesses no antiquarian interest except in certain fittings afterwards mentioned, but it is a very good example of modern Gothic. The extent of the former north and south aisles is marked on the outside by diagonal buttresses, and on the inside by a slight break in the wall. At the west end of the north aisle an organ-chamber was built in 1886, projecting northwards in front of the old St. Katherine's Chapel, which is now lost, but originally the wall ran straight through. Trinity Chapel, on the south side of the chancel, now occupies

⁷⁵ For the older charitable societies, see Baines, *Lancs.* i, 501.

⁷⁶ The churchwardens' accounts for 1660 contain an item of 24s. for eight loads of 'great stones from Blackstone edge for the steps.' Fishwick, *Rochdale at the beginning of the 17th century* (Hist. Soc. Lancs. and Ches. xxxviii).

⁷⁷ There is a local version of the well-known story of the stones having been carried up the hill-side from a proposed site on lower ground by supernatural agency. The legend is used by Roby in his *Goblin Builders*.

⁷⁸ Fishwick, *Hist. of Rochdale*, 12.

⁷⁹ So much alteration was done in later

years that the length of the original 13th-century chancel cannot be accurately stated. There were three arches and columns similar to those of the nave in 1863 (John Owen MSS. in Manch. Ref. Lib.), but these did not extend the full length eastward. There was a good deal of alteration in the north arcade of the chancel in 1854.

⁸⁰ Glynn (no date) states that when he visited the church there was a range of 'lancet arches upon imposts, which seem Early English,' in the east wall of the tower facing the nave.

⁸¹ Changes in the 17th century were: 1635, chancel repaired; 1646, south porch

repaired; 1693, west gallery erected; 1699, south gallery erected; 1700, south porch rebuilt; Fishwick, *Rochdale at beginning of 17th century* (Hist. Soc. Lancs. and Ches., xxxviii).

⁸² 24 July 1816, Sir Jeffrey Wyatt, architect, reported to the Bishop of Chester that he had made a survey of the church and found the repairs done in a workmanlike manner.

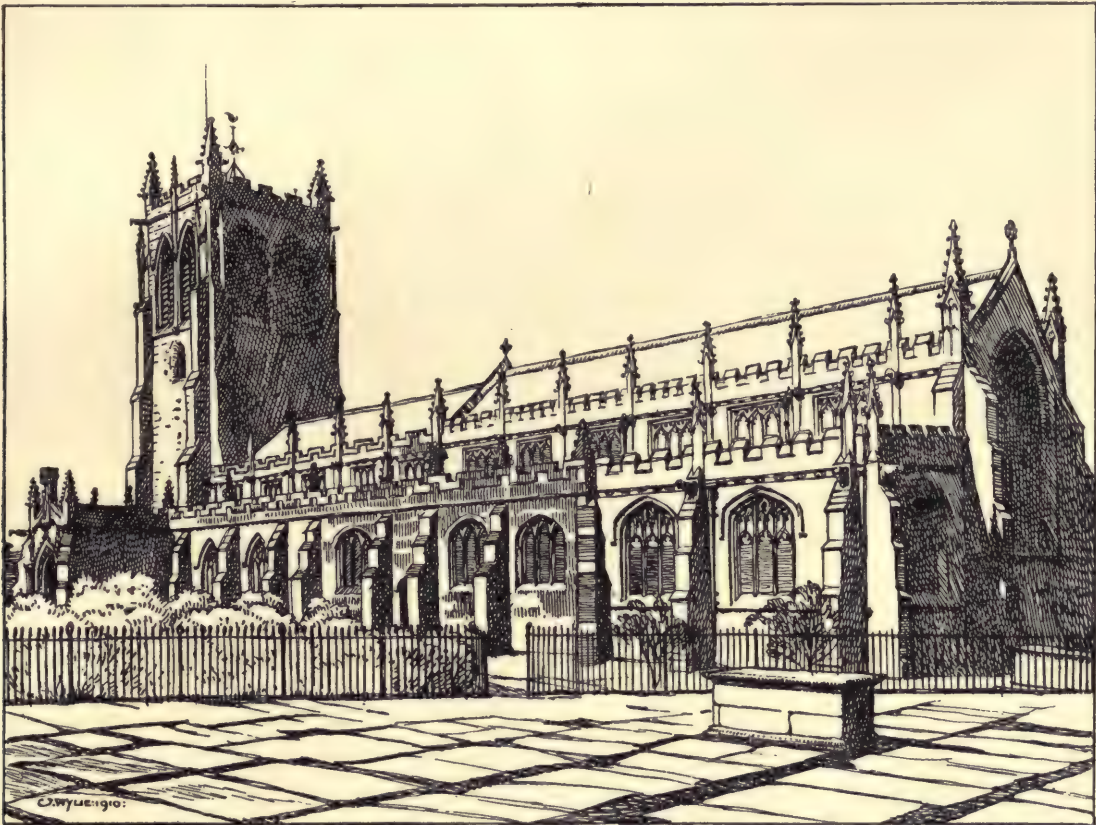
⁸³ These repairs included the rebuilding of the wall of the Trinity Chapel, repairs to the roof, and the removal of the gallery then existing at the east end in front of the rood screen. The screen remained till 1854.

⁸⁴ J. S. Crowther, architect.

the four easternmost bays of the south aisle, its eastern end being therefore entirely modern. It is divided from the rest of the aisle at the west end by a screen. The outer wall of the old south aisle up to the diagonal buttress has been refaced since the rebuilding of 1815, though the windows are apparently of that date. In the second bay is a small door between two closely-spaced buttresses, which probably served the Trinity Chapel, and was called in the 17th century the 'little door.' The aisles of the chancel are separated from those of the nave by stone arches, and on the north side there is a screen. The Trinity Chapel passed to the Dearden family in 1823,⁸⁵ and was very much altered in 1847 by Mr. Dearden, who placed there numerous memorials to his imaginary

eastern bays are less in width than the others. The details of the capitals and bases are unusually good for Lancashire work, the bases having the water-moulding and the capitals a moulded abacus and fillet. Four of the capitals, two on each side, in addition, have carving in the bell. The third pier from the west on the south side has good but rather flat stiff leaf foliage, and the first pier on the north side foliage of an apparently later date running round the bell. Two other capitals, one on each side, are carved with small human heads. One of these capitals is now very much mutilated. The floor of the nave was lowered 13 in. to the original level in 1885, and the pillars lengthened by about 10 in. of stone.⁸⁹

The nave clearstory consists of five square-headed



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ancestors,⁸⁶ including the effigies of a cross-legged knight and a bishop, incised slabs, and brasses.

The chancel arch⁸⁷ is modern and very lofty, the line of its springing being above the crowns of the arches of the chancel and nave arcades. There is no screen between the chancel and nave, the only division being a low stone wall.

The nave piers,⁸⁸ as before stated, are of 13th-century date, alternately octagonal and round, 18 in. in diameter, with moulded capitals and bases. The responds at each end are semi-octagonal, and the two

windows upon each side spaced without reference to the arcade beneath, and the roof is a good modern one put up a few years after 1855, with rich ornamental tie-beam and curved pieces under, carried down the walls between the windows and resting on brackets, but intersecting both the tower and chancel arches rather awkwardly.^{89a}

The west tower is 13 ft. square inside, with walls 5 ft. thick, and has a vice in the south-west corner. The tower arch is lofty and open to the nave, but an oak screen has recently been erected inclosing the

⁸⁵ There is an interesting description of its fittings at that date in Fishwick, *Hist. of Rochdale*, 149.

⁸⁶ These memorials are described in a book called *Popular Genealogists, or the Art of Pedigree Making*, by George Bur-

nett, *Lyon King of Arms* (Edinburgh, 1865), 95-6. Only a few of the brasses remain. The rest of the memorials have since been buried under the floor.

⁸⁷ It replaces one which seems to have been built in 1815.

⁸⁸ The pillars and arches were re-chiselled in the middle of the last century; Owen MSS. Manch. Ref. Lib. 1863.

⁸⁹ Fishwick, *op. cit.*

^{89a} The latter, however, is later than the nave roof.

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baptistery. Though the original tower was retained in 1873 not very much ancient detail has been left, the west door and window above being new, and the old diagonal buttresses having been replaced by square ones of four stages, finishing with detached pinnacles at the new belfry stage. The clock, which was a conspicuous feature of the old tower, was removed, but the old two-light pointed belfry windows still remain on each face of the tower, those on the south and west sides being slightly out of the centre, occasioned no doubt by the space occupied by the vice in the south-west angle. On the south side, to the west of the 14th-century window, is an old sculptured stone built into the wall. The old tower finished above these windows with an embattled parapet and angle pinnacles, but was raised by a new belfry stage with two lofty stone louvred windows of three lights on each face. Above this it finishes with a new embattled parapet and angle pinnacles, and has a good 18th-century weather vane.

The screen at the east end of the north aisle and that at the north end of the Trinity Chapel are old, and perhaps belong to the restoration of 1558, with a series of coats of arms on the bottom panels. There are new oak screens at the west end of each aisle inclosing the vestries.

Some old fronts and bench-ends are worked into the chancel seats, and bear a number of heraldic shields in their panels. The arms are: a cross moline; a bend wavy; France and England quartered; on a chief three roundels; eight martlets impaling a griffin, a cross moline, or a shackbolt; a fleur de lis with a chief ermine; the quartered coat of Byron and Colwycke; four fusils in a border engrailed, and in chief two bars, impaling a cross moline.

The screen at the east end of the north aisle bears the cross moline and shackbolt, and an inscription: 'In te Domine speravi. Deus Deus meus. In Domino confido.'

The screen at the east end of the south aisle has carved panels on its east side as well as the west, with an inscription: 'Miserere mei Deus. Domine exaudi. inclina Domine. parce nobis Domine. Libera nos Domine.'

In the north aisle of the chancel (St. Katherine's Chapel) is a plate of copper to the memory of Susanna Gartside (d. 1668), with a skeleton at each side of the words, 'As you are, so were we; as wee are, so you must be.'

The font now in use, which stands under the tower, was found buried in the vicarage garden in 1892, and consists of an octagonal sandstone bowl 2 ft. 8 in. in diameter at top and 1 ft. 10 in. in height, on a new base. It is entirely without ornament and of rough workmanship, and dates apparently from the latter part of the 15th century. It is very much worn, but the top still shows the holes for fastenings. There is a modern cover.⁹⁰

The churchyard is on the south and east sides of the church, and being paved with flat headstones, has a rather desolate appearance. On the north the ground

drops suddenly, the church being built almost on the edge of the declivity. The churchyard contains some fragments from the old 16th-century church—pinnacles, gargoyles, &c.—and a new stone lych-gate has been erected on the south side opposite the porch. Amongst the graves is that of Tim Bobbin (John Collier, d. 1786) with a rhyming inscription. The oldest gravestone is dated 1656.

There is a ring of eight bells, two cast by John Rudhall in 1787, and four in 1752 by Abel Rudhall. The tenor, which bears the motto, 'Success to the town and trade of Rochdale,' was cast in 1719, recast in 1756, and again in 1812.

The plate consists of a paten of 1698–9, inscribed 'Ex dono Tho. Holden Filius Ric. Holden in usum Ecclesiae Rochdaliens. 1696,'^{90a} with the maker's mark S.H. under a crown; a chalice presumably of 17th-century date, without marks and inscription, but with an engraved band under the rim; a paten of 1702, inscribed 'Ex Dono Sarae Holden Filiae Richd. Holden in usum Ecclesiae Rochdaliensis 1702'; an alms-dish of 1722, 'The gift of Mrs. Sarah Chadwicke of Chadwicke to the parish church of Rochdale who dyed Aug. 21, 1722'; two flagons of 1724, inscribed 'Ex dono Alexandri Butterworth Armigeri,' and with the arms and crest of Butterworth, and bearing the mark of Jonah Clifton; a tall flagon of 1772–3, inscribed 'The gift of Thos. Wray, D.D., vicar of this parish, 1773,' with the maker's mark I.C., probably that of John Carter; two chalices of 1807 with the mark of William Abdy; and a chalice of 1892, a replica of the 17th-century one.

The plate was twice stolen and recovered in the 18th century, in the years 1773 and 1779. In 1783 it consisted of the three present flagons, the two Holden patens, and the Chadwicke dish, together with five cups and chalices, one of which was marked on bottom ^M_{H.B.} and another ^{R.B.}_{M.H.}. In 1829 two of the old chalices were exchanged for two new ones.⁹¹

The registers begin in 1582. The earlier portions, 1582–1641, have been published.^{91a}

There are no tithe maps at the church.

A new archdeaconry of Rochdale was formed in 1910, the vicar being appointed.

The relics preserved in the church about 1200 are mentioned in a deed printed in the *Whalley Coucher*.^{91b}

The compact nature of the parish *ADVOWSON* favours the supposition that its church is very ancient, but there is no record of it until near the end of the 12th century. Then Robert de Whalley, rector of the church of Rochdale, gave to Alexander de Spotland certain lands which Adam de Spotland had just given to St. Chad and the church of Rochdale.⁹² As it appears that Geoffrey, Dean of Whalley, held the church in 1195,⁹³ the grant cited may be of a somewhat later date. The advowson, like the manor, was held by the lord of Clitheroe, and Roger de Lacy, who died in 1211, granted the church and the right of presentation to the abbey of Stanlaw. This grant

⁹⁰ See *Proceedings of the Soc. of Antiquaries*, xiv, 320 (1893).

^{90a} The date mark is two years later than the date on the inscription.

⁹¹ Fishwick, *Rochdale*, 142–3.

^{91a} Edited by Colonel H. Fishwick, 1888–9.

^{91b} *Whalley Coucher*, i, 146.

⁹² *Ibid.* iii, 727, 729. The rectors of Whalley are traditionally stated to have held Rochdale Church by hereditary right; *ibid.* i, 187.

Though the phrase 'church of Rochdale (or Rachedham)' was in general and early use, the correct expression seems to have been 'church of Castle-

ton in Rochdale'; *ibid.* i, 145, 151; iii, 729.

⁹³ *Ibid.* i, 137. Whitaker's explanation must be taken into account: Robert, a clerk, was son of Geoffrey, and held the rectory for a time by his father's grant, resigning or dying in his father's lifetime. Geoffrey's father was also a Robert.

was confirmed by his successor and by others interested. The Bishops of Lichfield also concurred, it being decreed that after the death of the rector in possession a vicarage should be instituted, to which a stipend and the 4 oxgangs of church land should be annexed, and the consent of three of the popes was obtained.⁹⁴ A later bishop in 1277 made a fresh decree regarding the vicarage; in addition to the 4 oxgangs, the vicar, who was to reside in his church, was to have a fit house and a stipend of 18 marks.⁹⁵ This arrangement was sanctioned by the capitular bodies⁹⁶ and the Archbishop of Canterbury.⁹⁷

The value of the church was returned as £23 6s. 8d. in 1291,⁹⁸ but the ninth of sheaves, wool, &c., in 1341 amounted to no more than £10.⁹⁹ In 1535 the value of the rectory was estimated as £49 13s. 4d.,¹⁰⁰

and that of the vicarage as £11 4s. 8d.¹⁰¹ These sums were probably much below the actual value, for in 1650 the yearly value of the glebe lands, rents, and profits of the vicarage was stated as £160 a year,¹⁰² and seventy years later was 'about £300.'¹⁰³ The glebe land having been utilized for building,¹⁰⁴ the income has greatly increased; but the land is now in the hands of the Ecclesiastical Commissioners, who pay £1,500 a year to the vicar.¹⁰⁵

After the confiscation of the possessions of Whalley Abbey, the advowson of Rochdale came to the Crown, and Henry VIII gave it to Archbishop Cranmer in exchange for a much more valuable estate.¹⁰⁶ The tithes were sold in 1813,¹⁰⁷ and the right of presentation was in 1848 transferred to the new Bishop of Manchester, whose successor holds it.

The following is a list of the vicars:—¹⁰⁸

Institution	Name	Patron	Cause of Vacancy
c. 1210 . . .	Geoffrey the Dean ¹⁰⁹	—	—
c. 1230 . . .	William de Dimplington ¹¹⁰	Whalley Abbey . . .	res. Geoffrey
c. 1260 . . .	John de Blackburn ¹¹¹	—	—
oc. 1304 . . .	Richard ¹¹²	—	—
oc. 1307 . . .	Roger ¹¹³	—	—
9 Dec. 1312 .	Richard de Parbold ¹¹⁴	Whalley Abbey . . .	—
25 Oct. 1317 .	Thomas de Bolton ¹¹⁵	" . . .	d. R. de Parbold
22 May 1350 .	Ralph de Dewsbury ¹¹⁶	" . . .	d. T. de Bolton
1 Jan. 1361-2 .	Ralph de Trumpington ¹¹⁷	" . . .	—

⁹⁴ The documents are given *ibid.* i, 135-153, &c.; Roger de Lacy's grants are on pp. 135, 137; his son John's confirmation, p. 138; John de Eland's release of any claim, p. 141; and John de Lacy's of Cromwellbottom, p. 145; Assize R. 408, m. 74; *Final Conc.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), i, 179. In addition, Geoffrey son of Geoffrey the Dean of Whalley resigned his title to the church to his lord John de Lacy; *Whalley Coucher*, i, 141. Richard son of the same Geoffrey the Dean released all land belonging to the church for an annuity of 20s. (p. 153); and Geoffrey de Buckley resigned his right to a third part of the tithes, which he had received from his patron Geoffrey the Dean (p. 142).

The assent of William, Bishop of Lichfield, who died in 1223, with his ordination of a vicarage, to come into force after the death of the then rector, is given, *ibid.* i, 139; the Prior and convent of Coventry gave their consent in 1222 (p. 140), and Alexander, the succeeding bishop, also ratified it (p. 140).

Geoffrey the Dean resigned his 'vicarage' to the same bishop, who united it to the rectory (p. 143), and afterwards, on the presentation of the abbot and convent, admitted William de Dimplington to the new vicarage (p. 145). As Alexander de Stavenby died in 1238 the who'e transaction must have been completed by this year.

The popes who confirmed the arrangements were Honorius III, in 1218 (to take effect 'after the death of Geoffrey, Dean of Whalley'), Innocent IV, about 1250, and Alexander IV, in 1255 and 1259; *ibid.* i, 168, 170, 169, 174.

⁹⁵ The bishop was Roger de Meulan in 1277; *ibid.* i, 69, 85. The vicar was to provide that the chapels dependent on his church should be served by fit priests and clerks.

⁹⁶ *Ibid.* i, 86, 87.

⁹⁷ John de Peckham, 1280; *ibid.* i, 88.

⁹⁸ *Pope Nich. Tax.* (Rec. Com.), 249.

⁹⁹ *Inq. Non.* (Rec. Com.), 39; Castle-ton was answerable for 26s. 8d., Spotland for 50s., Butterworth for 50s., and Hundersfield for 73s. 4d.

¹⁰⁰ *Valor Eccl.* (Rec. Com.), v, 229. The glebe lands produced 20s., the tithes £34 6s. 8d., oblations, Easter roll, &c., £14 6s. 8d.

¹⁰¹ *Ibid.* v, 227. The lands produced £4, and a pension of £8 was received from the Abbot of Whalley; but 15s. 4d. was due to the Archdeacon of Chester.

¹⁰² *Commonwealth Ch. Surv.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), 19.

¹⁰³ *Gastrell, Notitia Cestr.* (Chet. Soc.), ii, 121; 'the vicar has a large glebe, and all the houses of two of the best streets in the town belong to him—130 houses'; *ibid.* ii, 123.

¹⁰⁴ A plan of the glebe in 1754-7 is given in Fishwick, *Rochdale*, 56. In 1764 the vicar was authorized by Act of Parliament to grant building leases of ninety-nine years; it is printed in Raines, *Vicars of Rochdale* (Chet. Soc.), 202. A terrier of 1783 is printed in full; *ibid.* 235.

¹⁰⁵ This was in accordance with an Act passed in 1866 (29 & 30 Vict. cap. 86, and 31 & 32 Vict. cap. 114), by which the glebe was given to the Ecclesiastical Commissioners, who were to pay the then vicar £4,000 a year and his successors £1,500, the remainder to be used for church purposes; see Raines, *Vicars*, 361, &c.

In the Manor Survey of 1626 the glebe is estimated as 208 acres.

¹⁰⁶ *Ibid.* 32-6.

¹⁰⁷ The sum realized was £63,426. The purchasers were in general the owners of the titheable estates. The sale was in virtue of an Act passed in 1807, and some particulars may be seen in Raines, *Vicars of Rochdale*, 282, 283.

¹⁰⁸ Detailed accounts of the vicars, which have been used in these notes, will be found in Canon Raines, *Vicars of Rochdale*, with additions by the editor, Sir H. H. Howorth; also in Fishwick, *Rochdale*, 223-49.

¹⁰⁹ He is spoken of as 'vicar,' and in his resignation mentions the charter he had from the abbot and convent and the confirmation of the bishop; *Whalley Coucher*, i, 146, 141. He was son of that Geoffrey the Dean who was 'rector' in 1195. It is doubtful whether he was in orders. He succeeded his father at Whalley and at Rochdale, and may have had a share of the revenues of the latter assigned to him (as a 'vicarage') when the church was given to Stanlaw. In 1218 as Geoffrey the Dean he was certainly in possession, as appears by the confirmation of Pope Honorius; see note 94 above.

¹¹⁰ *Ibid.* i, 145; as 'W. vicar of Rochdale' his name appears as witness to several charters in the same volume, one of which appears to be as late as 1260; *ibid.* ii, 614.

¹¹¹ *Ibid.* i, 144; he promised to claim from the monks of Stanlaw nothing but the land which his predecessor William had held, the pension of 5 marks, and the tithes of corn and beasts upon his own land. This vicar also frequently occurs as attesting charters.

¹¹² *Ibid.* ii, 632, as witness to a charter.

¹¹³ He was amerced for a breach of the forest laws; *Wakefield Ct. R.* (Yorks. Arch. Soc.), ii, 77.

¹¹⁴ *Lich. Epis. Reg.* i, fol. 32b; he is described as a chaplain.

¹¹⁵ *Ibid.* i, fol. 85; a chaplain. In his time, in 1330, the bishop held an ordination at Rochdale; *ibid.* i, fol. 162.

¹¹⁶ *Ibid.* ii, fol. 127; a chaplain.

¹¹⁷ *Ibid.* iv, fol. 80; a priest. In 1365 he was made penitentiary for the deanery of Manchester; *ibid.* v, fol. 116.

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Institution	Name	Patron	Cause of Vacancy
11 Feb. 1369-70	Roger son of William de Manchester ¹¹⁸	Whalley Abbey . . .	res. R. de Trumpington
13 Nov. 1389	John Fitheler ¹¹⁹	—	exch. R. de Manchester
17 Apr. 1402	John Salley ¹²⁰	—	d. J. Fitheler
3 May 1403	Richard Twistfield ¹²¹	Whalley Abbey . . .	res. J. Salley
31 July 1426	Henry Marland ¹²²	" . . .	res. R. Twistfield
4 March 1455-6	Richard Salley ¹²³	" . . .	d. H. Marland
23 Feb. 1471-2	Thomas Brotherton ¹²⁴	—	d. R. Salley
24 March 1473-4	John Walton ¹²⁵	Whalley Abbey . . .	res. T. Brotherton
20 Sept. 1483	William Ashton ¹²⁶	—	d. J. Walton
c. 1522	Gilbert Haydock ¹²⁷	Whalley Abbey . . .	—
2 March 1553-4	Richard Gorstlow ¹²⁸	The Queen . . .	d. last vicar
16 Nov. 1557	John Hampson, M.A. ¹²⁹	Cardinal Pole . . .	depr. R. Gorstlow
17 March 1560-1	— Huntington ¹³⁰	Abp. Parker . . .	depr. J. Hampson
— 1561	Richard Midgeley ¹³¹	" . . .	—
21 Dec. 1595	Joseph Midgeley ¹³²	Abp. Whitgift . . .	res. R. Midgeley
9 March 1606-7	Richard Kenyon, M.A. ¹³³	Abp. Bancroft . . .	depr. J. Midgeley
— Oct. 1615	Henry Tilson, D.D. ¹³⁴	Abp. Abbot . . .	d. R. Kenyon
17 March 1635-6	Robert Bath, M.A. ¹³⁵	Abp. Laud . . .	res. H. Tilson
18 Oct. 1662	Henry Pigot, B.D. ¹³⁶	Abp. Juxon . . .	depr. R. Bath

¹¹⁸ Ibid. iv, fol. 85; a priest. A bur-
ge in Manchester belonging to Roger
son of William, vicar of Rochdale, is
named in a deed of 1383; Hulme D.
no. 7. He was otherwise known as
Roger de Lache. See further in the
account of the rectors of Radcliffe.

¹¹⁹ Ibid. vi, fol. 54; by exchange for
the rectory of Radcliffe. Ellen the sister
and executrix of John le Fitheler accepted
20s. from the Abbot and Convent of
Whalley in satisfaction of all arrears;
Add MS. 32104, no. 949.

¹²⁰ Lich. Epis. Reg. vii, fol. 88; a monk
of Whalley. He became vicar of Whalley
in 1411.

¹²¹ Ibid. vii, fol. 89; a chaplain.

¹²² Ibid. ix, fol. 118b. His seal



is engraved in Corry, *Lancs.* ii, pl. vi.

¹²³ Lich. Epis. Reg. xi, fol. 136; a
chaplain. His original name was Smith;
Raines, *Vicars*, 25. A dispute with his
executors, Lawrence Helme and Grace
his wife, occurred in 1476; Add. MS.
32104, no. 960.

¹²⁴ Lich. Epis. Reg. xii, fol. 106; a
monk of Whalley.

¹²⁵ Ibid. xii, fol. 108.

¹²⁶ Ibid. xii, fol. 116. The Abbot of
Whalley, on 18 Nov. 1506, granted the
next presentation to the vicarage to
Nicholas Towneley and Richard his son;
ibid. xiii-xiv, fol. 92b. It is not known
whether any presentation was made under
this grant. The next vicar known is said
to have been nominated by the Abbot of
Whalley.

¹²⁷ In a return made in 1523 the parish
church was stated to be worth £200;
Gilbert Haydock had been vicar for a year,
and his vicarage was worth 20 marks;
Raines, *Vicars*, 29, quoting Duchy Plead.
Hen. VIII, x, R. 7. He was a priest of
evil life, having several bastard children, as
he names them and a grandchild in his will
dated 15 Feb. 1553-4; Raines, op. cit. 38.

¹²⁸ Act Bks. at Chester Dioc. Reg. He
paid his first-fruits 3 Mar. 1553-4; *Lancs.*
and *Ches. Rec.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.),
ii, 408. (The later records of these pay-
ments were from the same volume.) Gorst-
low was deprived because he had neither
resided nor provided a priest to minister
in the church; Raines, *Vicars*, 39.

Peter Prescott is said to have paid first-
fruits for Rochdale on 21 Mar. 1553-4.
Nothing further is known of his connexion
with this church; see the account of
North Meols.

The queen claimed the right to present,
the archbishopric of Canterbury being
vacant, against Sir Henry Stanley and
others; Pal. of Lanc. Writs Proton.
file 1 Mary.

¹²⁹ Reg. Pole, Add. MS. 6086, fol. 50b;
quoted in Raines, *Vicars*, 40. He did not
appear at the Elizabethan visitation in
1559, and was deprived in Mar. 1561.
The name is also spelt Hanson, and this
vicar may safely be identified with the John
Hanson, Archdeacon of Richmond, who
was deprived in 1559, and is said to have
gone into exile before 1562; Gee, *Eliza-
betan Clergy*, 88, 89, 184.

¹³⁰ Add. MS. 6088, fol. 55, quoted in
Raines, *Vicars*, 41. It is supposed that
he was never actually inducted.

¹³¹ There is a long biography of him
in Raines, *Vicars*, 42-68. From this it
appears that he was a zealous Protestant,
who seldom wore the prescribed surplice.
He gave a part of the glebe for the new
school. See also *Ducatus Lanc.* (Rec.
Com.), ii, 255.

That his resignation was brought about
by his nonconformity to the queen's
regulations seems clear from a memoran-
dum concerning clergymen who refused to
wear the surplice. Among them was
'Richard Midgeley, vicar of Rochdale, a
country scholar, yet discreet, sober, and
very peaceable, the only first planter of
sound religion in this corner of our coun-
try in her majesty's time,' who since his
first entrance had not used the surplice,
yet had 'used his ministry very peaceably,
and had at his monthly communions above
800 communicants that zealously cried,
'Thy kingdom come.' The writer
thought that the vicar would conform,
'or else peaceably give over his ministry.'
The date appears to be about 1590; *Hist.*
MSS. Com. Rep. xiv, App. iv, 602.

¹³² The church papers at Chester begin
at this point. First-fruits paid 5 Nov. 1595.
He was educated at Emmanuel College,
Cambridge, and became a more uncon-
promising Puritan than his father. The
church had no surplice in 1598, and the
regular Prayer Book service was cut down
to allow of longer sermons; and in 1605
it was found that the communicants sat

instead of kneeling, the surplice was not
worn, the sign of the cross was omitted in
baptism, and flesh was eaten during Lent.
He was soon afterwards deprived. See
the notice in Raines, op. cit. 72-7.

¹³³ First-fruits paid 7 Mar. 1606-7. He
was also a fellow of Manchester, 1602-15,
and probably did not reside much at Roch-
dale. He was rector of Stockport, 1614-15.
See Raines, op. cit. 77-81; Earwaker,
East Ches. i, 383. He was returned as
'a preacher' about 1610; *Hist. MSS.*
Com. Rep. xiv, App. iv, 12.

¹³⁴ First-fruits paid 13 Mar. 1615-16.
He was of Balliol College, Oxford, M.A.
1601, at which time he was fellow of
University College; Foster, *Alumni*. He
was promoted to the deanery of Christ
Church, Dublin, in 1634, and to the
bishopric of Elphin in 1639, but driven
from Ireland by the rebellion of 1641 and
later troubles. He died near Dewsbury in
1656. He was a friend of Strafford, Laud,
and Bridgeman, and no doubt agreed with
their policy in Church and State; see
Raines, *Vicars*, 81-92. A survey of the
vicarage estate, made in 1626, is printed,
ibid. 83.

Henry Tilson, a portrait painter, was a
grandson of the bishop; see *Dict. Nat. Biog.*

¹³⁵ First-fruits paid 23 May 1636. The
institutions from this time have been com-
pared with those in the Inst. Bks. P.R.O.,
as printed in *Lancs. and Ches. Antiq. Notes*.
He was educated at Oxford, but the
college is uncertain; see the notice in
W. A. Shaw's *Bury Classis* (Chet. Soc.),
212. He joined the Presbyterian party,
and in 1648 signed the 'Harmonious
Consent.' Rochdale at this time formed
part of the Bury Classis. In 1650 he was
described as 'a godly minister and well
qualified'; *Commonwealth Cb. Surv.* 19.
He was expelled for nonconformity in
1662, and afterwards ministered to the
Dissenters. See Raines, *Vicars of Roch-
dale*, 92-109.

¹³⁶ He was of Lincoln College, Oxford,
B.D. 1660; Foster, *Alumni*. Though he
was appointed rector of Brindle (1651-
1722) in the Commonwealth period, he
was an Episcopalian in principle, as is
proved by his seeking ordination in 1654
from Bishop Tilson. He reintroduced the
surplice at Rochdale, and was 'remem-
bered as a whimsical textuary, who in-
tended to divert rather than to instruct his
hearers.' He conformed to the Revolu-

Institution	Name	Patron	Cause of Vacancy
27 Sept. 1722	Samuel Dunster, D.D. ¹³⁷	Abp. Wake	d. H. Pigot
3 Aug. 1754	Nathaniel Forster, D.D. ¹³⁸	Abp. Herring	d. S. Dunster
12 Nov. 1757	James Tunstall, D.D. ¹³⁹	Abp. Hutton	d. N. Forster
10 April 1762	Thomas Wray, D.D. ¹⁴⁰	Abp. Secker	d. J. Tunstall
6 July 1778	Richard Hind, D.D. ¹⁴¹	Abp. Cornwallis	d. T. Wray
28 July 1790	Thomas Drake, D.D. ¹⁴²	Abp. Moore	d. R. Hind
14 Jan. 1820	William Robert Hay, M.A. ¹⁴³	Abp. Sutton	d. T. Drake
28 Dec. 1839	John Edward Nassau Molesworth, D.D. ¹⁴⁴	Abp. Howley	d. W. R. Hay
— 1877	Edward Craig Maclure, M.A. ¹⁴⁵	Bp. of Manchester	d. J. E. N. Molesworth
— 1890	James Maurice Wilson, D.D. ¹⁴⁶	"	prom. E. C. Maclure
31 Oct. 1905	Arthur Frederic Clarke, M.A. ¹⁴⁷	"	res. J. M. Wilson

During the mediaeval period there is little to record of the history of the church.¹⁴⁸ The vicars were men of no more than local note; for two short periods monks of Whalley held the benefice.¹⁴⁹ Though there were chapels of the Holy Trinity¹⁵⁰ and St. Katherine¹⁵¹ at the south and north sides of the chancel, there does not seem to have been any regularly endowed chantry.¹⁵² In 1541 there were, in addition to the vicar and his curate, seven priests in the parish, some no doubt serving the chapels of ease at Littleborough, Milnrow, and Whitworth.¹⁵³ The church seems to have been well furnished.¹⁵⁴ Eight names appear in the Visitation List of 1548, but the vicar and two others died before 1554, when four of

the old clergy and two new ones were recorded. In 1563 the vicar, an assistant who did not stay long, and the three chaplains, two of them 'decrepit,' appeared, while two years later the staff had been increased by one name.¹⁵⁵

Gilbert Haydock, vicar from about 1522 to 1554, was one of the scandal-giving clergy of the time, having acknowledged, though illegitimate, offspring; his successor had to be deprived for not attending to his duties, and Hampson, vicar at Elizabeth's accession, though a conscientious man, was non-resident. Hence the people more readily attended to the active minister who was appointed just after his deprivation, and who for nearly thirty-five years laboured among

tion. He founded two scholarships at Wadham College, Oxford, and endowed Brindle School. See the full account in Raines, op. cit. 109-44; *Hist. MSS. Com. Rep.* xiv, App. iv, 230; also O. Heywood, *Diaries*, ii, 276, 290. The dispensations to hold Rochdale with Brindle were granted by the Archbishop of Canterbury and the king on 1 Oct. and 10 Oct. 1662.

¹³⁷ He was of Trinity College, Cambridge; M.A. 1700, D.D. 1713, and became Prebendary of Salisbury in 1717. He translated Horace, and was satirized in the *Dunciad*. At Rochdale he built 'a very good new house' as vicarage. Of a volume of sermons supposed to be his, Canon Raines remarks: 'They contain no controversial matter, and there is more absence of Christian doctrine in them than might have been expected.' See Raines, op. cit. 144-67; *Dict. Nat. Biog.*

¹³⁸ Educated at Pembroke and Corpus Christi Colleges, Oxford, of which latter he became fellow; M.A. 1739, D.D. 1750. He was chaplain to Bishop Butler, and became a canon of Bristol in 1755. He was a scholar and preacher, also F.R.S. He resided very little in Rochdale, where he was regarded as a miserly pluralist. See Raines, op. cit. 167-82; *Dict. Nat. Biog.*—a list of his works is added.

¹³⁹ Educated at St. John's College, Cambridge; M.A. 1731, D.D. 1744. See Raines, op. cit. 182-97, where a list of his works will be found; also *Dict. Nat. Biog.*

¹⁴⁰ Educated at Christ's College, Cambridge, of which he became fellow; M.A. 1747, D.D. 1762. Soon after coming to Rochdale he obtained the Act allowing the vicars to grant building leases. He was a charitable and good man, a peace-maker, active in catechizing the young, 'a consistent Churchman, and a Tory of the Pitt school'; see Raines, op. cit. 197-225.

¹⁴¹ Educated at Christ Church, Oxford; M.A. 1736, D.D. 1750. He was also vicar of Skipton in Yorkshire, and a

prebendary of St. Paul's. See Raines, op. cit. 225-47.

¹⁴² Educated at St. John's College, Cambridge, of which he was elected fellow; M.A. 1771; D.D. 1784. He acquired the esteem of his parishioners, who erected a memorial over his grave. See Raines, op. cit. 247-83; R. F. Scott, *Admissions to St. John's Coll.* iii, 167, 696.

¹⁴³ Educated at Christ Church, Oxford; M.A. 1783. He entered the Inner Temple, and was called to the Bar in 1788. Ten years later he was ordained, but always remained the magistrate rather than the clergyman. He was chairman of the bench responsible for the 'Peterloo Massacre' of 1819, and this naturally made him unpopular in Rochdale. He was frequently absent, being also rector of Ackworth and Prebendary of York. See Raines, op. cit. 284-325.

¹⁴⁴ Educated at Trinity College, Oxford; M.A. 1817, D.D. 1838. His efforts caused 'the resurrection of the Church in Rochdale.' He was engaged in constant warfare, the church-rate disputes troubling his early years as vicar; disputes with the Bishop of Manchester and some moderate ritual changes, including robbing the choir in surplices, the later ones. The Vicarage Act was passed in his time. See Raines, op. cit. 325-76, where a list of his publications is given; also *Dict. Nat. Biog.*

His son, William Nassau Molesworth, incumbent of St. Clement's, Spotland, and Hon. Canon of Manchester, who died in 1890, was author of a *History of England* from 1830; *Dict. Nat. Biog.*

¹⁴⁵ Of Brasenose College, Oxford; M.A. 1858; Dean of Manchester from 1890 till his death in 1906.

¹⁴⁶ Of St. John's College, Cambridge, of which he was fellow; M.A. 1862. Archdeacon of Manchester, 1890; Residential Canon of Worcester, 1905, when he resigned the vicarage and archdeaconry.

¹⁴⁷ Of Trinity College, Oxford; M.A.

1874; Hon. Canon of Manchester, 1905; formerly vicar of Cockerham, 1881-1905, and Archdeacon of Lancaster, 1895-1905.

¹⁴⁸ A dispute as to a kneeling-place in the church in 1475 was settled by John Byron as arbitrator; Raines, *Vicars*, 26.

¹⁴⁹ In 1402-3 and 1472-83.

¹⁵⁰ A deed of 1487 regulating the appointment and duties of the 'Trinity priest,' chaplain of the brotherhood of the Holy Trinity, is printed in Raines, *Vicars*, 120-1. The chapel was afterwards the property of the Butterworths of Belfield, and was sold to James Dearden in 1823; *ibid.* The goods taken by the Crown from a chapel at Rochdale may have belonged to this brotherhood; Raines, *Chantries*, ii, 270.

¹⁵¹ The altar of St. Katherine is mentioned in a deed of 1514; Raines, *Vicars*, 28.

¹⁵² About 1370 there was a chaplain of Our Lady in Rochdale Church, but the lands appropriated to his use, having been taken without the royal licence, appear to have been seized by the Crown. A certain Cecily de Bromley bequeathed a messuage and 2 acres to the service of a chantry chaplain in the time of Edward III; L.T.R. Memo. R. 163, m. 13. Thomas son of Henry Huetson in 1371 gave land called the Bankhouse, valued at 3s. a year, to God and B. Mary, for a chaplain celebrating divine service in Rochdale Church; *ibid.* R. 166, m. 113. An inquiry into the matter made in 1370 will be found in Chan. Inq. p.m. 45 Edw. III, no. 64.

St. Mary Croft is named in a Holt of Stubble deed in 1621; Raines MSS. vi, 217. It was situated in Spotland; *ibid.* xxi, 153.

¹⁵³ *Clergy List* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), 13.

¹⁵⁴ *Chureh Gds.* 1552 (Chet. Soc.), 48. The three altars were fully provided for; the church had a 'pair of organs,' and there were five great bells.

¹⁵⁵ These details are from the visitation lists preserved at Chester.

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them.¹⁵⁶ For a century, except for a brief interval,¹⁵⁷ the church was in the hands of Puritan clergy, and their successors, after the Restoration, do not appear to have been men able to counteract this teaching.¹⁵⁸ Hence the power of Nonconformity in the district is readily accounted for.¹⁵⁹

The growth of the population as Rochdale became a manufacturing centre led to the enlargement of the parish church and the building of new ones. St. Mary's, Wardleworth, was consecrated in 1744;¹⁶⁰ St. James's, Wardleworth, in 1821;¹⁶¹ St. Clement's, Spotland, in 1835;¹⁶² and Christ Church, Healey, in 1850.¹⁶³ In the last half-century the following have been added: St. Alban's, 1856;¹⁶⁴ All Saints', Hamer, 1866;¹⁶⁵ St. Peter's, Newbold, 1871;¹⁶⁶ St. Mary's, Balderstone, 1872;¹⁶⁷ St. Edmund's, Falinge, 1873;¹⁶⁸ St. Luke's, Deeplish, 1892;¹⁶⁹ and the district of the Good Shepherd has been formed, though a permanent building is wanting. The Bishop of Manchester collates to St. Luke's, All Saints', St. Clement's, St. Edmund's, St. Peter's, and the Good Shepherd, and has the presentation of Christ Church alternately with the Crown; the vicar of Rochdale presents to St. Mary's, St. James's, and St. Alban's; and trustees to St. Mary's, Balderstone.

The grammar school, now extinct, was founded by Archbishop Parker.¹⁷⁰ The income, £62 a year, is used to provide exhibitions at the universities.

Methodism was introduced into the town about 1746, and Wesley, on visiting the place in 1749, was received with 'shouting, cursing, blaspheming, and gnashing of teeth.' A chapel was built in Toad Lane in 1770, and after being sold in 1793 was used as a theatre. A new chapel was opened in this year in Union Street, and rebuilt in 1825.¹⁷¹ The Wesleyans have now six other churches in the town; the New Connexion has one, built in 1867, but the story of this section of Methodists goes back to 1819; the United Free Methodists have ten churches, the

largest, in Baillie Street, originated in 1837 in a secession from Union Street; the Primitive Methodists have four, but their earliest chapel, built in 1829, was afterwards a music hall. St. Stephen's Church was opened in 1812 for the Countess of Huntingdon's Connexion, which still retains it.¹⁷²

The Baptists began services in 1772, and in the following year nine persons were publicly baptized in the Roch; a small chapel was built in 1775, replaced in 1833 by that in West Street. The original Ogden and Hope chapels date from 1785 and 1810 respectively, and there are now six churches of this denomination in Rochdale.¹⁷³

The Congregationalists have four churches. Providence Chapel was acquired in 1814, having been built for a congregation gathered by Joseph Cooke, who had been expelled by the Wesleyans. Milton Church originated in a dispute in 1852. There are two more recent churches.¹⁷⁴

The Salvation Army has a barracks, and there are several other places of worship belonging to less defined bodies. The Welsh Calvinistic Methodists have a church.

The Society of Friends has had members in Rochdale almost from its foundation, but the meeting-house in George Street was not built until 1807-8. John Bright is interred in its burial-ground.¹⁷⁵

The Unitarian Church in Blackwater Street represents the congregation formed by Robert Bath, the vicar ejected in 1662. A meeting-house was licensed during the temporary Indulgence of 1672, and Oliver Heywood preached there to 'a mighty auditory,' but no chapel seems to have been built until 1716. It was rebuilt in 1856. The congregation became Unitarian during the 18th century.¹⁷⁶ There was formerly another Unitarian chapel in Clover Street.¹⁷⁷

The population rapidly became Protestant after the Reformation,¹⁷⁸ and it was not till 1815 that mass was said again in the town, in a hired room. St. John

¹⁵⁶ Hollinworth, speaking of the influence of Vaux at Manchester, says: 'This was one reason why many thereabouts were lother to be reclaimed from Popery than about Rochdale'; *Mancunensis*, 81.

The presentments at the Bishop of Chester's visitations (in Chest. Dioc. Reg.) prove that the Puritan irregularities went on without check. In 1589 there was 'no surplice' at Rochdale. In the following year the vicar was a 'painful' preacher; S.P. Dom. Eliz. xxxi, 47. The details printed in *Lancs. and Ches. Antiq. Soc.* xiii, 68, appear to belong to this parish. In 1598 there was again 'no surplice,' and the service was shorter than the Book of Common Prayer by reason of sermons. In 1601 the vicar did not wear the surplice, and similar reports were made in 1604 and 1605. In the latter year the Communion was celebrated sitting; the sign of the cross was not used in baptism. Again in 1609 the four curates in the parish did not wear the surplice.

¹⁵⁷ Say from 1607 to 1636, while Kenyon and Tilson were vicars. In 1635 the chancel was paved and the seats made uniform (choirwise) by order of the Bishop of Chester; *Cal. S.P. Dom.* 1635-6, p. 157.

¹⁵⁸ See the Introd. (pp. x-xii) to Raines's *Vicars*.

¹⁵⁹ Bishop Gastrell found in 1717 that at Rochdale avowed Presbyterians were

numerous; there were also a few in Littleborough, Milnrow, and Saddleworth, while Todmorden was largely Nonconformist; *Notitia*, ii, 121, &c.

¹⁶⁰ Fishwick, *Rochdale*, 216. A district chapelry was formed for it in 1844; *Lond. Gaz.* 30 Nov.

It was formerly known as 'Baum chapel.' The neighbourhood was once haunted by a white rabbit ghost, known as the Baum Rabbit; Fishwick, *op. cit.* 537.

¹⁶¹ Fishwick, *op. cit.* 220; built under an Act of Parliament obtained in 1815. For district see *Lond. Gaz.* 30 Nov. 1844.

¹⁶² Fishwick, *loc. cit.*; built out of the Parliamentary grant. For district see *Lond. Gaz.* 30 Nov. 1844.

¹⁶³ Fishwick, *op. cit.* 221; chancel added in 1864. The district was formed in 1846; *Lond. Gaz.* 18 Sept.

¹⁶⁴ For district see *Lond. Gaz.* 9 May 1856.

¹⁶⁵ For district assigned see *Lond. Gaz.* 1 Mar. and 9 Apr. 1867.

¹⁶⁶ For district see *Lond. Gaz.* 5 Nov. 1867.

¹⁶⁷ For district see *Lond. Gaz.* 10 Jan. 1865.

¹⁶⁸ For district see *Lond. Gaz.* 5 Nov. 1867.

¹⁶⁹ The chancel was built in 1889, and the nave eight years later. A parish was assigned to it in 1895.

¹⁷⁰ Fishwick, *Rochdale*, 270-4.

¹⁷¹ *Ibid.* 257-8.

¹⁷² *Ibid.* 268.

¹⁷³ *Ibid.* 261-4. The original congregation was of Particular or Calvinistic Baptists; A. J. Parry, *Cloughfold Church*, 199; Rippon's *Bapt. Reg.* iii, 21. The Central hall, now used for entertainments, was until 1890 a Baptist chapel.

¹⁷⁴ Nightingale, *Lancs. Nonconf.* iii, 244-9.

¹⁷⁵ Fishwick, *Rochdale*, 266-8. Baines's *Dir.* of 1825 names the Quaker meeting-house as in Garden Lane, Wardleworth, built in 1817. This was the only one.

¹⁷⁶ *Ibid.* 251-6; Nightingale, *op. cit.* iii, 240-4. Oliver Heywood frequently passed through Rochdale, and records having preached there between 1672 and 1679; *Diaries*, ii, 104, 110; iii, 111, &c. He gives the place a bad character at that time; *ibid.* ii, 261, 285; iii, 211.

Thomas Threlkeld, minister from 1778 to 1806, was famous for his power of memory; see *Manch. Guard. N. and Q.* no. 190.

¹⁷⁷ It was built in 1818; Fishwick, *op. cit.* 256.

¹⁷⁸ Not a single 'Papist' was reported to Bishop Gastrell about 1717 (see *Notitia*), but in that year Sarah Chadwick of Lambourn, Berks., widow of Thomas Chadwick, registered her annuity from lands in Rochdale. She was, however, a Somerset woman; Estcourt and Payne, *Engl. Cath. Nonjurors*, 150, &c.

the Baptist's Church was opened in 1830, and St. Patrick's in 1861.

Apart from a number of educational endowments,¹⁷⁹ the principal charities of Rochdale are those founded by John Kenion in 1789 for the apprenticing of children,¹⁸⁰ and by Josiah Gartside in 1712 for clothing the poor, now utilized for providing nursing and other medical assistance.¹⁸¹ In Spotland the gifts of Mary Shepherd¹⁸² and Mary Hill¹⁸³ produce £27 a year, distributed to the poor in kind. There are a few others, chiefly for particular churches or districts.¹⁸⁴

CASTLETON

Castleton, 1292. Berdeshull, 1261.

This township, which takes its name from a castle formerly situated on the south bank of the Roch, a little distance west of the church,¹ has an area of 3,812 acres, lying on the south side of the river just named. The town of Rochdale now occupies a large portion of the area. The ancient hamlets were: Castleton Glebe, 237½ acres; Marland (including two detached portions), 1,837½; Buersill (with a detached portion), 1,141; Lower Lane, 285; Newbold, 310.

¹⁷⁹ A report on the charities, issued by the Commissioners in 1828, is reprinted (except for Todmorden) in the *End. Char. Rep.* for Rochdale, excluding the borough, issued in 1904. The Saddleworth Charities were included in 1828, but not in 1904.

The educational endowments are those for a grammar school, £55 6s. 8d.; for the Free English School, founded by the Hardmans about 1770, £164 18s. 8d.; for clothing and teaching six poor girls, founded by Dorothea Holt, 1717, £6 14s. 4d.; for Milnrow School, £23 15s.; for Ogden School, £92 4s. 2d., partly applicable to clothing poor children; for Hollinworth School, £28 17s. 8½d., also partly applicable for clothing; for Littleborough School, £17 5s. 4d.; for Smallbridge National School, £2 2s.; for Whitworth Free School, £14 10s.; for John Taylor's Charity, formerly Toad Lane School, Spotland, £89 14s., now applied to the Technical School.

The report of 1828 also records an endowment of £150, producing £6 15s. a year, for the school at Todmorden.

A benefaction by Thomas Guest, 1731, was intended for a school at Blackwater, but this had failed before 1828.

For the Hardman family above mentioned, see the account of Allerton in Childwall.

¹⁸⁰ The endowment in 1826 consisted of £6,365 consols, which has been increased by the addition of unused income, so that the stock is now £8,872, producing an income of £221 16s. This is expended in apprenticing boys and girls from the whole parish of Rochdale, about sixteen grants being made yearly.

¹⁸¹ The original endowment consisted of four cottages in Spotland. In 1828 these were occupied as two public-houses, and the gross income was £116 a year. After repairs, &c., had been paid, also £1 to the incumbent of Todmorden for a sermon, about £50 was expended in clothing for the poor, according to the benefactor's desire. In 1893 the estate was sold, and the

purchase money invested in £5,383 10s. consols in the name of the official trustees. A new scheme was made in 1896, by which, after the payment of £1 to the vicar of Todmorden for the charity sermon, £10 yearly is specially appropriated to the old township of Castleton, and the remainder to the whole parish (including Castleton). The money is to be expended on subscriptions or donations to a convalescent home, and to assisting patients to travel to such home; also in providing nurses for the sick and infirm. The annual income now amounts to £134 11s. 8d.

¹⁸² Mary Shepherd in 1702 left £120 to buy land or a rent-charge for the benefit of six poor women in Whitworth. Land in Butterworth was purchased, but has since been sold, and the proceeds invested in £680 consols. The income, £17 0s. 4d., is distributed by the vicar of Whitworth in doles to the poor.

¹⁸³ Miss Mary Holt of Broadhalgh, in Spotland, by her will of 1869 left £500 for the poor. This is now represented by £403 consols held by the Official Trustees, and producing £10 1s. 4d. yearly. The vicar of St. Clement's, Spotland, and others administer the fund under a scheme made in 1899, orders for clothing, flannel, or blankets to the value of 10s. each being distributed once a year.

¹⁸⁴ Mrs. Grantham, mother of Dorothea Holt, about 1700 left £30 for the poor, the interest of which had been distributed in baize mantles to six poor widows of Castleton and Rochdale. The daughter continued the charity, and by accumulations the capital had reached £80 in 1828. It was found difficult to distribute the income as the testatrix directed, and further accumulations have increased the capital to £107 consols, now held by the official trustees. The vicar of Rochdale now devotes the interest, £2 13s. 8d., to the stipend of a nurse working in Castleton.

Alexander Butterworth in 1714 charged Croft Head Farm with £5 payable at Christmas to the poor of Milnrow chapelry. The charge is still paid, the vicar and

The surface is comparatively level, sloping somewhat towards the north.

The principal roads are those from Rochdale south-west and west through Marland to Bury, with a branch south through Castleton village, formerly called Blue Pits, to Middleton and Manchester; south through Buersill and Balderstone to Oldham; and east to Milnrow. The Lancashire and Yorkshire Railway from Manchester to Halifax passes through the township, having stations at Castleton and Rochdale; near the former is a junction with the line from Bury, and to the east of the latter branches go off south-east to Oldham and north-west to Bacup. An electric tramway extends to Middleton. The Rochdale and Manchester Canal, formed about 1802-4, starts at Rochdale and goes through Castleton village; on the south side of Rochdale it is joined by the rather earlier Todmorden Canal, which provides conveyance into Yorkshire.

Heywood Cemetery lies in the north-west corner of the township. At Marland is the hospital for infectious diseases, formerly the workhouse; it was purchased by the Corporation of Rochdale in 1886.

On the north side of Marland, by the Roch, is a wooded clough known as Tyrone's Bed, a story invented by Roby and William Nuttall (d. 1840) gaining currency that the Earl of Tyrone, outlawed by

churchwardens of Milnrow distributing it to the poor in doles of 2s. or 2s. 6d.

John Wolfenden in 1688 left £100 for the poor of Hundersfield; this was lost about 1800, because the attorney who held the capital could not recover money owing by the township, and therefore discontinued paying interest.

John Brearley in 1692 left £50 for the poor of Spotland. The money was spent on land in Whitworth and Wardle, and the rent in 1828 spent on linen distributed by the overseers. The land was afterwards sold, and the capital is now represented by a rent-charge of £11 vested in the official trustee. The money is expended, under a scheme of 1897, in subscriptions to the Rochdale Infirmary and the Rossendale Blind Society for the benefit of the poor of Spotland.

The Rev. Francis Allen Minnitt in 1889 gave to the official trustees £200 for the poor of Christ Church, Healey, the vicar and churchwardens having the distribution. The income, £6 7s. 3d., is given chiefly to the sick and destitute, but money has also been given to cricket clubs, &c., entertainment and instruction being among the objects contemplated by the founder.

The ecclesiastical endowments include the Milnrow Bellringers' Charity, Littleborough Church Repair Fund, Wesleyan Chapel at Bagslats; St. Saviour's Church, Bacup; and Providence Baptist Chapel, Bacup.

In the 1828 report it is stated that Richard Clegg, vicar of Kirkham (d. 1720), gave £16 to Todmorden and Walsden to be lent, without interest, in sums of £4 each, to poor men or widows. This charity still existed when the report was drawn up.

¹ The phrase 'Villa Castelli de Racheham' occurs in an early 13th-century charter; *Whalley Coucher* (Chet. Soc.), ii, 599. The castle ditch is named in another deed; *ibid.* ii, 608. A plan of the castle hill in 1823 will be found in H. Fishwick, *Rochdale*, 65. Nothing is known of the history of the castle.

A HISTORY OF LANCASHIRE

Elizabeth, took refuge there.³ 'Kill Danes,' by the Castle Hill, has, of course, the explanation that Danish invaders were slain there at some remote time.³

Part of Castleton was taken into the borough of Rochdale on its formation in 1856. A local board for the remainder was created in 1875,⁴ but the boundaries were afterwards altered.⁵ The district became a township in 1894,⁶ but was taken into the borough of Rochdale in 1900.⁷ The former town-

ship of Castleton is now chiefly within Rochdale borough; but small parts lie within the borough of Heywood and the new township of Milnrow.

A 'mine' in Castleton, perhaps a stone quarry, is mentioned in 1365.⁸

The manor of *MARLAND* and 9 ox-*MANORS* gangs of land in *CASTLETON* were given to Stanlaw Abbey by Roger and Henry de Lacy and others.⁹ The abbots probably



CASTLETON HALL

³ Harland and Wilkinson, *Traditions*, 60.

⁴ The real meaning of the name is supposed to be 'Well Valley.'

⁵ *Lond. Gaz.* 2 July 1875.

⁶ Parts of Hopwood and Thornham were included in 1879; 42 & 43 Vict. cap. 86.

⁷ Loc. Govt. Bd. Order, 32287.

⁸ Loc. Govt. Bd. Order P 1639; at the same time a small part was included in Heywood; *ibid.* P 1640.

⁹ De Banco R 419, m. 102; Abbot of Whalley v. Roger Brown.

¹⁰ A large number of charters relating to the Rochdale estates of the abbey will be found in the *Whalley Coucher* (Chet. Soc.). In 1212 the abbey held 6 oxgangs in alms by grant of Roger de Lacy, and in 1358 it was stated that Roger had granted 4 oxgangs in Castleton, as well as the manor of Marland, and that Henry de Lacy had afterwards added 5 oxgangs in Castleton, all which grants had been duly confirmed; *Lancs. Inq. and Extents* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), i, 40; Assize R. 438, m. 4.

The grant of Marland seems to have been due to Alan de Marland, who about 1200 gave his estate there—which, it appears, was a moiety—to Roger de Lacy, who soon afterwards transferred it to the monks of Stanlaw with Alan's concurrence. A rent of 40d. was due to Hugh de Eland; *Whalley Coucher*, ii, 590-3,

This land probably counted as 2 of the 6 oxgangs recorded in 1212. The other moiety was given to the monks by Adam de Bury, who had procured its surrender by his tenant Thomas de Bamford; a rent of 32d. was due from this portion; *ibid.* ii, 593-5. The rent due to the chief lords amounted to 6s. In 1304 William de Lightollers, perhaps heir of the chief lord of the second moiety of Marland, released to the monks all his right in the grange of Marland and lands in Castleton; *ibid.* ii, 631.

Roger de Lacy also granted 4 oxgangs in Castleton; *ibid.* i, 153. As the charter is placed among those relating to the church, it is probable that these were the 4 oxgangs afterwards appropriated to the vicarage; and in turn may be identical with those granted by Henry de Eland to Alexander son of Andrew the priest, at a rent of 32d., which Andrew the son of Alexander de Castleton granted to Stanlaw, together with his title in the mill of Sudden; *ibid.* ii, 607, 606. John de Lacy also gave 4 oxgangs, perhaps the same, which had belonged to Humphrey de Lascales and Award Brown, at a rent of 3s., and released his claim to the mill; *ibid.* ii, 601-2. Some other grants appear to be surrenders by the actual occupiers of the lands; thus Ellis son of Award Brown gave to the monks an oxgang, which he held by the service of serjeanty; *ibid.* ii, 610, 612. John son

of Reynold the Gynour also gave an oxgang, called the Great Bromyrod (now Brimrod); *ibid.* ii, 609. This account is not quite satisfactory, as the total rent due to the chief lord should have been 12s., whereas only 8s. 8d. or 9s. is recorded above.

In 1277 Henry de Lacy gave to Stanlaw 5 oxgangs in Castleton, previously held at will by the monks; *ibid.* ii, 595. The monks appear to have purchased from the occupiers; thus Adam son of Dolphin de Healy gave 2 oxgangs, lying beside the Roch, to his brother Henry, at a rent of 16d., and Henry gave them to Stanlaw for 16s. 8d., surrendering also his claim to Sudden mill; *ibid.* ii, 596-8. He sold a further oxgang, held of Robert de Flamborough, at a rent of 8d.; and Robert not only confirmed the grant, but added two more oxgangs, purchased from the above-named Adam, to be held at a rent of 16d., the monks giving him 20s.; *ibid.* ii, 598-600.

Many place and field names occur in the charters; a 'dead water' called Two-foldhee lay near the Roch, some way to the west of the castle; *ibid.* ii, 608, 603.

The Abbot of Stanlaw had £3 assized rent in Rochdale in 1291; *Pope Nich. Tax.* (Rec. Com.), 259.

The tenure of the lands of the monks appears to have been as uneventful as usual. In 1306 Isabel widow of Robert de Liversedge claimed dower in Castleton

regarded all their lands in Rochdale as forming one manor; but afterwards each of the purchasers appears to have regarded his share as a separate 'manor.' At the confiscation James Gartside was the monks' bailiff, and it was recorded that once a year a court had been kept at 'Overland,' all their tenants attending.¹⁰

The Castleton estate was in 1542 sold by Henry VIII to Robert Holt of Stubley,¹¹ and the family afterwards made Castleton their chief residence.^{11a} Like Stubley it descended to the Chethams and Winstanleys.¹² The hall was by Clement Winstanley in 1772 sold or mortgaged to persons¹³ who eleven years later sold it to James Walmsley of Goose Lane; and he sold it to Thomas Smith of Sparth. Ellen, one of his daughters and co-heirs, carried it in marriage to the Entwistles of Foxholes.

CASTLETON HALL is an irregularly-shaped two-storied stone-built house, its principal front facing east^{13a} towards the Lancashire and Yorkshire Railway, which passes close by it. The building is said to have been built in the reign of Elizabeth, and is described in 1626 as 'a fair mansion house, being built with freestone,' to which were attached 'stables, oxhouse, and dovehouse, also gardens, orchards, and courts.'¹⁴ Part of this late 16th or early 17th-century house yet stands, retaining most of its ancient features, including the hall with its bay window and kitchen wing at the north end, and the mullioned windows and stone gables. The south wing seems to have been pulled down in 1719, when the rectangular pile of building, which now forms the larger part of the house, was built by Samuel Chetham. It is in a simple classic style with high sash windows, overhanging cornice, and hipped roof, has a frontage of 62 ft. 9 in., and stands 26 ft. in front of the older portion of the house at its south end. At this point is a good lead rain-water head dated 1719. The back of the building has an irregular outline made up by additions and rebuildings of later dates, of no particular interest.

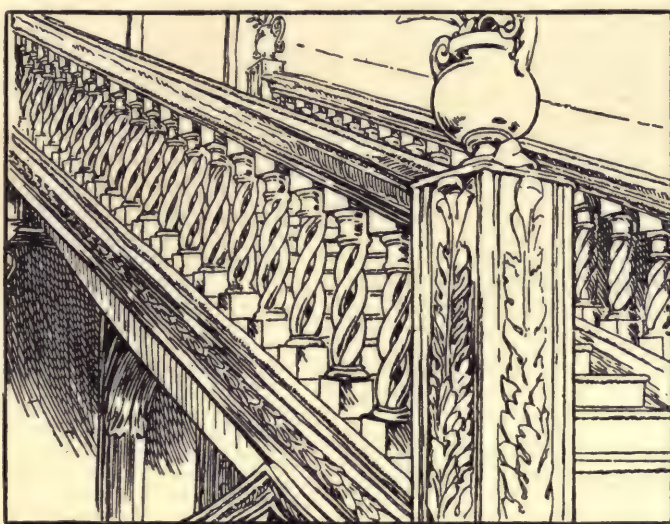
The great hall now forms the principal entrance to the house, the door being at its north-east corner. It is 30 ft. in length and 21 ft. in width, with a paved stone floor, and has a bay window 10 ft. wide and 5 ft. 6 in. deep at the south-east. In addition to the bay window it is lit on the east side by a seven-light

mullioned and transomed window. The walls are panelled in oak to the height of the top of the doorways, leaving a plain plaster frieze above, and the ceiling is of plaster, probably of the 18th century, with moulded ribs. In the upper lights of one of the windows is a series of shields representing the arms of the Holts and their alliances:¹⁵ Radcliffe of Todmorden, Radcliffe of Ordsall, Talbot of Salesbury, Stanley, Towneley of Towneley, Legh of Adlington, and Byron of Clayton.

In the lower part of the window are the arms of Hopwood of Hopwood and of Chetham.

In the upper part of another window are the arms of Seyvell of Tankersley,¹⁶ Holt of Gristlehurst, Atherton of Atherton, Robert Holt of Castleton, Assheton of Middleton, and Trafford of Trafford. In the lower lights are Entwisle of Foxholes, and Smith of Castleton.

There are also fragments of heraldic and German glass inserted, dated 1616 and 1630, but they have



CASTLETON HALL: THE MAIN STAIRCASE

no connexion with the house. The kitchen is on the north side of the hall, and is 26 ft. long and 17 ft. 3 in. in width, with a fireplace opening 12 ft. wide and 3 ft. 6 in. deep on its north side, now filled with a modern range. It is lit by a six-light mullioned and transomed window at the east end, and the ceiling is crossed by three beams.

A small oak staircase with twisted balusters gives

against the abbot; the third of a rent of 7s. 4d. was included; De Banco R. 160, m. 113d.; 161, m. 343. This would be the chief rent of the 5 oxgangs last acquired. In 1353 the Abbot of Whalley successfully resisted a claim for a rent of 6s. as due from his manor of Marland to the Duke of Lancaster; Assize R. 435, m. 11d. In the time of Richard II and Henry IV the abbot had to make good his title to a number of parcels alleged to have been alienated without the royal licence; Q.R. Memo. R. 159; L.T.R. Memo. R. 163, m. xiii; 166, m. 113.

Licences of alienation to Whalley Abbey may be seen in *Cal. Pat.* 1330-4, p. 384; 1340-3, p. 23; 1343-5, p. 51.

Castleton Moor was recovered from the abbot; *Lanc. Inq. p.m.* (Chet. Soc.), i, 89.

¹⁰ *Whalley Coucher*, iv, 1224-32. Overland is perhaps an error of transcription for Merland.

¹¹ Pat. 33 Hen. VIII, pt. 6, m. 14; there were included various messuages and lands, a mill, and a fulling-mill; also a close called Lycott in Hundersfield. 'A close called Lyrol' had been occupied by Richard Schofield, at a rent of 6s. 8d.; *Whalley Coucher*, iv, 1231.

^{11a} The Holts had land in Castleton long before they acquired the lordship; *Final Conc.* iii, 31; *Ducatus Lanc.* (Rec. Com.), ii, 17. Robert Holt, who died in 1554, was found to have held the manor of Castleton in chief, by the tenth part of a knight's fee, and a rent of 22s. 4½d.; *Duchy of Lanc. Inq. p.m.* x, no. 7.

¹² See the account of Stubley. Ac-

cording to the Survey of 1626 Robert Holt held Castleton House, Gorehill, and Deeplish, with 464 acres of land, and nearly 400 acres in Castleton Moor; Raines MSS. (Chet. Lib.), xxi, 4, 9. The manors of Castleton, Naden, and Marland were held by James Holt and Dorothy his wife in 1704; *Pal. of Lanc. Feet of F. bde.* 269, m. 12.

¹³ *Com. Pleas Recov. R. Trin.* 13 Geo. III, m. 124.

^{13a} More correctly south-east.

¹⁴ Fishwick, *Rochdale in the beginning of the 17th Century* (Hist. Soc. of Lancs. and Ches. xxxviii 1886).

¹⁵ Fishwick, *Hist. of the Parish of Rochdale*, 310-11.

¹⁶ *Ibid.* 311.

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access from the back of the hall to the upper rooms of the older part of the house.

At the south-east corner of the hall, near to the bay window, a door opens into the main corridor of the 18th-century wing, which contains two lofty rooms on the ground floor with elaborate plaster ceilings. Both rooms are panelled and have good fireplaces, and are excellent examples of the style of the period. The staircase, which leads from the corridor close to the door from the older part of the building, is a fine example of early 18th-century Renaissance detail, with large open twisted balusters and massive square carved newels.

Marland was in 1540 sold by the Crown to Thurstan Tyldesley, together with the Whalley lands in Swinton.¹⁷ In the time of Elizabeth it was pur-

chased by the Radcliffes of Langley,¹⁸ and by them sold in 1630 to the Holts of Stubley.¹⁹ A local family took its surname from the place.²⁰

BUERSILL²¹ was an estate anciently held by the Hospitallers.²² About 1540 the tenant was John Stafford, who paid a quit-rent of 13d.²³ It was afterwards sold to the Byrons,²⁴ who sold it to a large number of occupying holders.²⁵ In 1626 the quit-rent was payable to the Earl of Derby. At the same time James Halliwell of Pike House had land there.²⁶ **BALDERSTONE** gave its name to a local family,²⁷ who were succeeded by the Holts,²⁸ Gartside,²⁹ and Heywoods;³⁰ but there had been much subdivision, and Robert Heywood in 1626 had but a few acres. The chief holders were Robert Holt,³¹ and Charles son of John Holt,³² the latter having the hall. The

¹⁷ Pat. 32 Hen. VIII, pt. 4. For the Tyldesleys see the account of Wardley in Eccles.

¹⁸ Richard Radcliffe and Owen his son and heir apparent in 1565 purchased from Thurstan Tyldesley, Margaret his wife, and other members of the family, ten messuages, 1,000 acres of land, 2,000 acres of moor, &c., in Marland, Castleton, and Spotland; Pal. of Lanc. Feet of F. bdl. 27, m. 202. Owen Radcliffe and Edmund Radcliffe secured the same estate, or an additional portion of it, from William Sherington, Elizabeth his wife, and Gilbert Sherington in 1578; *ibid.* bdl. 40, m. 8. Owen Radcliffe in 1589 made a settlement of his estate in Castleton and Spotland; *ibid.* bdl. 51, m. 42.

An account of Langley and its owners will be found under Middleton. In 1604 Edmund Radcliffe died in possession of ten messuages, lands, &c., in Marland, not described as a manor, held of the king by the hundredth part of a knight's fee; he held other messuages, &c., in Castleton by services unknown, and others in Spotland of Sir John Byron; *Lancs. Inq. p.m.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), i, 21-2. In 1626 Henry Radcliffe, the only freeholder mentioned, held 720 acres in Marland, which he had received from his great-uncle Richard Radcliffe; Raines MSS. xxi, 10. Henry died in 1630 holding the 'manor of Marland' of the king by knight's service; Duchy of Lanc. Inq. p.m. xxvii, no. 25.

¹⁹ Robert Holt purchased the manor of Marland with messuages, lands, &c., in Marland and Castleton, from Richard Radcliffe and Elizabeth Radcliffe, widow. The vendors gave warranties against the heirs and assigns of Henry Radcliffe (father of Richard), Edmund Radcliffe, Owen Radcliffe, and Richard the father of Owen; Pal. of Lanc. Feet of F. bdl. 117, no. 11; Clowes D. no. 20.

²⁰ For the earlier bearers of the name see *Whalley Coucher*. Henry Marland was vicar of Rochdale from 1426 to 1455. For later members of it see Fishwick, *op. cit.* 312.

²¹ It gave a name to residents; see *Whalley Coucher*, ii; *Exch. Lay Subs.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), 34.

²² See *Plac. de Quo Warr.* (Rec. Com.), 375.

²³ Rental in Kuerden MSS. v, fol. 84; the rent should no doubt be 13d., as in the manor survey of 1626.

²⁴ Twelve messuages, lands, &c., in Nether Buersill and Castleton were in 1554 sold to Sir John Byron by William Stafford and Lawrence son of John Stafford; Pal. of Lanc. Feet of F. bdl. 15,

m. 6. The manor of Buersill is named among the Byron estates in 1582; *ibid.* bdl. 44, m. 223.

²⁵ Survey of 1626; Raines MSS. xxi, 21. The acreage is given as 680.

²⁶ *Ibid.* 23.

²⁷ Adam de Balderstone attested a charter in the time of Henry III; *Whalley Coucher*, iii, 645; John son of Hugh de Balderstone in 1290 released to the monks of Stanlaw his right in the service of Richard son of Andrew de Haworth; *ibid.* iii, 723. Henry de Balderstone about 1300 made a grant of all his part of the waste of Buersill Moor to Sir Richard de Byron; Byron Chartul. no. 68/176. More extended grants were made by Henry de Balderstone to Sir Richard and Sir James de Byron in 1347 and 1348 respectively; *ibid.* no. 19/188, no. 21/189. This was perhaps a trust, for Sir James at once granted them back to Henry for a term of sixteen years; *ibid.* no. 22/200.

²⁸ Thomas Urmston in 1414 released to trustees, including James Holt, all his right in lands in Castleton formerly belonging to Henry de Balderstone; Dods. MSS. cxvii, fol. 164. Shortly afterwards the estate is found in possession of James del Holt and Eleanor his wife; a settlement made in 1419 gives remainders, in default of male issue, to Henry del Holt, bastard, Elizabeth wife of Ellis de Buckley, and Agnes wife of Bernard de Butterworth. James was a son of Geoffrey del Holt; *ibid.*

From a plea of 1424 it is evident that James de Chetham (of Nut-hurst) and Eleanor his wife (a daughter of Ellis de Buckley) had a share of the estate; *ibid.* It was afterwards settled on the above-named Elizabeth Buckley. James Holt dying without heir Henry Holt succeeded, and was followed by his son Henry, who died in 1520 without male issue. He was known as Henry Holt of Balderstone, and held nine messuages, 300 acres of land, &c., in Castleton, of the king as of his duchy by services unknown; the heir was Ellis Buckley son of Richard, grandson of the above Ellis and Elizabeth Buckley, aged forty years; Duchy of Lanc. Inq. p.m. vi, no. 31.

²⁹ In 1557-8 Roger Gartside claimed against Gabriel, bastard son of James Gartside, four messuages, 200 acres of land, &c., in Castleton, which Henry Marland and others had [about 1450] given to Agnes Gartside, Elizabeth Townley, and Alice Belfield, daughters of a certain Henry Holt; the lands were afterwards divided, and James Gartside, as son and heir of the said Agnes, had granted her share to Roger as

his brother and heir; Dods. MSS. cxvii, fol. 166; Pal. of Lanc. Plea R. 203, m. 7; 204, m. 14.

Henry's daughters did not obtain their right without a lawsuit; *Ducatus Lanc.* (Rec. Com.), i, 200; ii, 40; Fishwick, *Rochdale*, 318.

By a settlement in 1565 Roger Gartside and Isabel his wife provided that their estate of six messuages, lands, &c., in Castleton should descend to their daughters Margery and Agnes, the latter being then wife of Robert Holt; Pal. of Lanc. Feet of F. bdl. 27, m. 166. A partition or sale of lands in Castleton was in 1579 made by Charles Holt, Peter Heywood and Margery his wife, John Holt, and Thomas Holt and Robert his son and heir, acting together; *ibid.* bdl. 41, m. 14. Peter Heywood and Margery his wife held six messuages, &c., in Castleton in 1580; *ibid.* bdl. 42, m. 50. Peter Heywood held of Robert Savile or of John Bradyll; *Ducatus*, iii, 22, 35, 43.

³⁰ In 1590 part of the land (26 acres) was granted to Peter Heywood and Mary [Margery] his wife, daughter and co-heir of Roger Gartside, who in 1626 were represented by their son Robert Heywood; *Surv. of 1626* (p. 8). Margery Heywood, widow of Peter, had died in 1602, holding six messuages, &c., in Castleton of John Holt of Stubley, and leaving a son and heir Robert, then aged twenty-nine; Duchy of Lanc. Inq. p.m. xviii, no. 47.

³¹ He is described as 'grandson of Charles Holt of Stubley,' and held 72 acres; *Surv.* 7. Thus he was not the Robert son of Thomas of the fine of 1579 quoted above.

Charles Holt appears as purchaser from James Chadwick in 1564; Pal. of Lanc. Feet of F. bdl. 26, m. 196, 239. He had a messuage and lands in Castleton in 1574, which in the following year he granted for life to Ottiwell Holt, Isabel his wife, and Alexander his son; *ibid.* bdl. 36, m. 134; 37, m. 93. Ottiwell Holt was of Brimrod; the pedigree is given (Holt of Mosside, Marland) in Fishwick, *Rochdale*, 330-3.

³² *Surv.* 7; he held 64 acres.

John Holt had in 1577—perhaps by purchase from the heirs of Henry Holt—an estate of eight messuages, lands, &c., in Balderstone, Castleton, and Hundersfield; Pal. of Lanc. Feet of F. bdl. 39, m. 139. Charles Holt in the following year purchased land from John Talbot and Robert his bastard son; *ibid.* bdl. 40, m. 68. John Talbot and Mary his wife had in 1566 sold a messuage and lands in Balderstone and Kirkholt to George Cowper, and

Chethams of Nuthurst long held the Slack in Balderstone,³³ and as heirs of the Buckleys had a rent-charge in Balderstone.³⁴ The moor of Buersill appears to have been long in dispute between the owners of Balderstone and Butterworth.³⁵ *LOWER PLACE* was in 1626 held by Robert Holt, in virtue of a gift by his great-grandfather Thomas Holt.³⁶

NEWBOLD anciently gave a surname to the owners,³⁷ and in 1626 James Newbold held 74 acres there by knight's service, and John Newbold held 10 acres.³⁸ The other tenants were Richard Schofield, who held 72 acres which had formerly belonged to the Buckley family;³⁹ and Edward Butterworth, who held 32 acres for which a rent of 6*d.* was due to Richard Schofield.

Newbold Hall is a small two-storied stone building occupying three sides of a quadrangle. It stands on high ground facing north-east, about a quarter of a mile south-west of Belfield Hall, and separated from it by the valley of the Stanney Brook. The situation must originally have been a fine one, but the house now fronts on to a narrow street, and is in the midst of mean surroundings. The building appears to date from the 16th century, with later work in parts, and the north wing, which was until recently used as a public-house, has been almost entirely modernized and rebuilt. The central and south wings of the original building remain, but are in a sadly dilapidated condition. The house has been divided into tenements, but only two portions are at present (1908) occupied, and the rest of the building is rapidly going to decay. The walls are constructed of rough stones in narrow courses, and the quoins, which are of a hard gritstone, are of great size, some being 4 ft. long. The roofs are covered with grey

stone slates, and the windows have all been originally long mullioned openings without transoms. Some of the old windows remain, but others are built up or modernized. The south wing of the house is almost detached from the centre portion, and may possibly have been added subsequently to the original building. What is now the central wing has a projection at its south end, both back and front, of about 6 ft., forming on the front a kind of bay in the angle of the courtyard; but the plan of the original house is not quite clear. The courtyard was about 40 ft. across, but nearly one-half of it has been built upon in recent times, and a modern cottage now occupies its north side, abutting on to the north wing, and effectually destroying the original appearance of the house on this side. The wings project each about 30 ft., but the east gable of the south wing is some distance in front of that of the north owing to the broken line of the central portion of the house. The east side of the courtyard to the street is inclosed by a high stone wall with entrance gateway and well-designed 17th-century gate piers, the caps of which are placed diagonally and have ball finials. The gateway was formerly in the centre of the court, between the two wings, but when the north end of the courtyard was built upon was removed to its present position in the centre of the east wall of the now reduced quadrangle. The principal entrance to the house was under a four-centred arched doorway in the north-west corner of the courtyard, but this is now hidden by the new building. The house is a good example of the smaller stone-built halls of this part of the county, which form a striking contrast to the prevalent wood and timber construction of the less hilly districts.

purchased others from William Charnley, Thomas Lussell and Jane his wife; *ibid.* bde. 28, m. 212, 242; see also *Ducatus Lanc.* (Rec. Com.), ii, 238, 317.

Charles Holt died in 1628 holding the capital messuage called Balderstone Hall, with water-mill, messuages, and lands in Balderstone below Castleton; also messuages, &c., in Walsden in Hundersfield. The Balderstone estate was held of Robert Holt of Stubley. His heir was his grandson John, son of Samuel Holt, aged nearly sixteen years; *Duchy of Lanc. Inq. p.m.* xxvii, no. 11.

John Holt's son Richard sold Balderstone Hall in 1713 to Timothy Whitehead of Lidyate in Saddleworth, and it has changed hands several times since then. Herbert Radcliffe owned it at his death in 1904. See Fishwick, *Rochdale*, 320.

³³ Thomas de Chetham, who died in 1383, held land called the Slack of the heirs of Henry de Balderstone in socage; *Towneley MS. DD.*, no. 1463. This appears to be the messuage and land in Castleton recorded in later inquisitions, the tenure being unknown; e.g. *Duchy of Lanc. Inq. p.m.* iii, no. 62. In 1521 Thomas Chetham of Nuthurst and John Cudworth of Werneth became bound to Alice Holt of Balderstone to abide an arbitration as to the Slack; *Clowes D.* no. 1. Alice, who was the widow of Henry Holt, appears to have surrendered the place, which in 1524 Thomas Chetham granted to his brother Ellis for life; *ibid.* no. 6. From a rental of 1521 it appears that Henry Holt had paid a rent of 6*s.* 8*d.* for the Slack; *ibid.*

³⁴ The estate of James de Chetham and

Eleanor de Buckley his wife has been mentioned in a preceding note. In later disputes it was agreed that the Chethams should have a rent of 13*s.* 4*d.* from Balderstone. By subdivision it was increased to 13*s.* 6*d.*, thus in 1677—From James Worrall, Alexander Wolstenholme, James Whitworth (two), each 1*s.* 1*d.*—4*s.* 6*d.*; from Mrs. Holt of Balderstone, 4*s.* 6*d.*; and from Mrs. Gaskell's, for that which was John Worsley's, 4*s.* 6*d.*; *Clowes D.*

³⁵ William de Slack in 1342 granted his lands in the moor to Sir Richard de Byron, who, as stated above, had already procured a grant from Henry de Balderstone; and in 1539 James Gartside granted Dykegate, &c., to John Byron; *D.* in the *Surv.* of 1626 (*Raines MSS.* xxi, 28).

For a settlement of boundaries in 1552 see Fishwick, *op. cit.* 72 (quoting *Duchy Rec.* iv, C.I. 5 *Edw. VI.*). For disputes as to the rights of pasture on the moor between Sir John Byron on one side and William Stafford and others on the other, see *Ducatus Lanc.* (Rec. Com.), i, 222, 250, 274; ii, 92.

³⁶ *Surv.* of 1626, p. 5; he held 233 acres. He was the son of Adam Holt, who died in 1621, holding lands in Castleton of John Holt of Stubley in socage by a rent of 2*d.*, and other lands in Wardle (including Crolesse Farm) of Sir John Byron by a rent of 13*d.*; *Lancs. Inq. p.m.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), ii, 226–8; *Duchy of Lanc. Inq. p.m.* xxviii, no. 53. The estate descended in the family for about a century; see Fishwick, *op. cit.* 324–6, for pedigree.

In the same work (p. 327) will be found the pedigree of Heape of Lower Place.

A rent of 2*d.* had formerly been paid to Whalley Abbey by Richard Schofield for Malymehey; *Whalley Coucher*, iv, 1231.

³⁷ Several of the name occur in the *Whalley Coucher*. Geoffrey son of Robert de Newbold in the latter half of the 13th century gave the monks of Stanlaw a small piece of land for a tithe-barn site; it stood on the north side of the road to Butterworth; *ibid.* i, 161.

William son of Henry son of the Nun of Newbold gave to his lord, Geoffrey de Buckley, land in Newbold; *Add. MS.* 32107, no. 426.

Edward Newbold died in 1620 holding lands in Castleton and Butterworth of Sir John Byron the younger in socage by a rent of 4*d.*, also in Hundersfield of the same by a rent of 4*d.* James Newbold, his son and heir, was over forty years old; *Lancs. Inq. p.m.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), ii, 193.

³⁸ *Surv.* 16, 17; the total acreage of the hamlet is given as 295.

For later particulars of the Newbold family see Fishwick, *op. cit.* 314–16.

³⁹ *Surv.* 16.

Henry Schofield of Humber had five messuages and lands in Castleton and Hundersfield in 1569, and settled them on his son Edward in 1583; *Pal. of Lanc. Feet of F. bde.* 31, m. 13; 45, m. 41.

Richard Schofield of 1626 was a son of Henry Schofield; he held Newbold Hall, but the estate was afterwards sold several times. About a century ago it was purchased by Joseph Newbold of Rochdale, whose son Joseph owned it in 1889; Fishwick, *op. cit.* 316.

A HISTORY OF LANCASHIRE

Roger Chadwick of Warmhole in Spotland held 43 acres in Castleton in 1626.⁴⁰

Among the estates may be named Goose Lane, Hartley, and Crossfield.⁴¹ In 1626 there was some copyhold land in Castleton hamlet.

In addition to the places of worship named in the account of Rochdale, the following have in recent times been erected in Castleton:—For the Church of England, St. Martin's, Castleton Moor, 1862,⁴² and All Souls, 1899, the Bishop of Manchester collating to each; for the Wesleyans, United Free Methodists, and Congregationalists,⁴³ one each.

SPOTLAND

Spotland, 1276; Spotlond, 1292; variants are Spotlaunde, Stoplond, 1292.

Wolstenesholm, 1276.

Whitworth, 1330.

This township occupies the north-west part of the parish, and has a total area of 14,174 acres. Its name is allied to Spodden, a valley running from north to south of it, down which flows a tributary, the Spodden Brook, to join the Roch on the western side of Rochdale. To the east and north-west of this valley the surface rises to 1,500 ft.; the northern end of the township, called Brandwood, occupies the slope down to the Irwell, which forms the principal boundary in that direction. The hamlets of this township were: Catley Lane, 2,701½ acres; Woodhouse Lane, 262; Chadwick, 717; Clay Lane, 90½; Wolstenholme and Cheesden, 2,262½; Falinge, 278; Healey, 853; Whitworth, Higher End, 1,247; and Lower End, 2,894½; Brandwood, Higher End, 1,574; and Lower End, 1,294.

Two principal roads spread out from Rochdale. One goes northward up the Spodden, through Broadley, Healey, Whitworth, Facit, and Shawforth, to Bacup; it is lined with houses and factories almost all the way. The other goes west through Norden, Wolstenholme, and Cheesden to Edenfield, where it joins the road from Bury to Burnley. Between these another road crosses Rooley Moor and Brandwood

Moor to reach Newchurch in Rossendale. The Lancashire and Yorkshire Company's railway runs north from Rochdale to Bacup, with stations named Facit, Shawforth, and Britannia.

The 'Whitworth doctors,' famous in the latter part of the 18th century and much of the 19th, began with the two brothers John and George Taylor; the last of the line died in 1876.¹

A curious 18th-century charm was found at Healey in 1876.²

Part of Spotland was taken into the borough of Rochdale on its formation, and additional portions have been incorporated since. Brandwood has been added to Bacup. The remainder of the ancient township is included in the modern districts of Norden and Whitworth. The local board of Norden, a place whose old name was Blackpits, was formed in 1878; it became a township in 1894. There are twelve members in the urban district council, each of the four wards—Catley Lane, Chadwick, Wolstenholme, and Woodhouse Lane—returning three. For Whitworth a local board was formed in 1874;³ this area also became a township in 1894, and the urban district council has twelve members, returned by four wards—Facit, Healey, Shawforth, and Whitworth.

The stocks at Whitworth were formerly within the chapel yard.

The 'Manstone,' on Monston Edge between Healey and Wardle, has the popular explanation that it was thrown by Robin Hood from Blackstone Edge.

The principal *MANOR* landowners in Spotland were the Abbot and convent of Whalley, their lands having been acquired through a large number of different gifts;⁴ and after the confiscation the Holts of Gristlehurst purchased the manor of *SPOTLAND*.⁵ The Holts of Stubble also claimed a manor there; it was called the manor



WHALLEY ABBEY.
Gules three whales hauriant from the mouth of each the head of a crossier issuant or.

⁴⁰ Manor Surv. 6.

Elizabeth widow of Robert Chadwick died in 1561 holding a messuage, &c., in Castleton belonging to her husband, held of the queen in chief by knight's service. James Chadwick, brother of Robert, was heir, and sixty years of age; Duchy of Lanc. Inq. p.m. xi, no. 9.

James Chadwick in 1564 purchased a messuage in Castleton from Charles Holt; Pal. of Lanc. Feet of F. bde. 26, m. 239. William Chadwick, as lessee of Katherine Colling, widow, had in 1568 a dispute with Otwell Colling (son of Katherine) and Joan his wife, respecting the Green Marled Earth in Castleton; *Ducatus Lanc.* (Rec. Com.), ii, 361. Robert Colling about 1540 was the tenant of Bartles in Castleton; several Chadwicks were also tenants; *Whalley Coucher*, iv, 1230.

⁴¹ See Fishwick, *Rochdale*, 321—Walmsley of Goose Lane; 326—Heape of Hartley; and 329—Vavasour of Crossfield.

⁴² The district was formed in 1863; *Lond. Gaz.* 13 Jan. Dr. Molesworth, vicar of Rochdale, is buried here.

⁴³ The Congregational Church at Castleton, formerly Blue Pits, originated in

1866; a school chapel was built in 1870; Nightingale, *Lancs. Nonconf.* iii, 253.

¹ Fishwick, *Rochdale*, 85; *Pal. Notebk.* ii, 59; *Oldham Notes and Gleanings*, i, 160.

² Fishwick, op. cit. 534, with facsimile.

³ *Lond. Gaz.* 14 Aug. 1874.

⁴ See *Whalley Coucher* (Chet. Soc.), iii, 637–800; i, 153, &c. Adam son of William de Eccles gave to Geoffrey son of Geoffrey the Dean 4 oxgangs in Spotland held of Hugh de Eland by a rent of 4s.; *ibid.* iii, 744, 746. Henry son of Geoffrey de Whalley afterwards released to Stanlaw Abbey all his right in the 4 oxgangs, being a fourth part of the vill of Spotland; the under-tenants were Henry de Spotland, 2; Hugh de Thelwall, 1; and Michael son of Robert the Reeve, 1; *ibid.* iii, 747. Robert son of Essolt (or Astulf) de Asterleys, who had previously surrendered his claim to Geoffrey and Henry de Whalley, then released it to the monks; *ibid.* iii, 745, 748. Hugh son of William de Thelwall afterwards gave his oxgang and land in Fernylea to the monks at a rent of 19½d., and subsequently released this rent; *ibid.* iii, 750, 751. Michael son of Robert also resigned his oxgang; *ibid.* iii, 742.

⁵ The grant by Henry VIII to Thomas Holt, made in 1542, included the manor of Spotland with its appurtenances, Whitworth, Tong End, Rockcliffe, and Brandwood; a rent of £3 11s. 4d. was to be paid; Pat. 33 Hen. VIII, pt. 6. Sir Thomas Holt died in 1562, holding the manor of Spotland, with lands and rents in Spotland, Hundersfield, Whitworth, Tong End, Rockcliffe, Greave Clough, Tong, Brandwood, Facit, Long Acres, Horsecroft, Hallstead, Swineshead, Wolstenholme, Naden, Hallowes, and Falinge; the greater part was held of the queen in chief by the fourth part of a knight's fee, but small portions were held of Charles Holt of Stubble, a minor, John Wolstenholme, and Robert Savile; Duchy of Lanc. Inq. p.m. xi, no. 46. See also *Lancs. Inq. p.m.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), ii, 81–6, iii, 371–8, where some family settlements are recited; Duchy of Lanc. Inq. p.m. xxvi, no. 25 (Theophilus Holt, 1628); and the account of Gristlehurst in Middleton parish. The estates were dispersed soon after the Restoration, but a 'manor of Spotland' is named as late as 1718, when Robert Heywood and John Starky were in possession; Pal. of Lanc. Feet of F. bde. 279, m. 86. From

of *NADEN*.⁶ The local name was used by one or more families, including that of the reeve.⁷ In 1292 John de Lacy of Cromwellbottom claimed various lands improved from the waste; it was declared that the Abbot of Whalley, Robert de Whitworth, Robert son of Henry, and Richard son of Ivo, held the waste in common.⁸

pleadings quoted in *Fishwick, Rochdale*, 78, it appears that courts were actually held in 1573, though there seems never to have been a manor properly so called. According to the Survey of 1626 Theophilus Holt had only 197 acres; Raines MSS. (Chet. Lib.), xxi, 170.

⁶ In 1311 Henry de Lacy of Cromwellbottom held half a plough-land in Spotland by the annual service of 20s.; *De Lacy Inq.* (Chet. Soc.), 20. The service for the sixth part of the manor of Rochdale was thus charged on a small part of it. The Stubley family would no doubt claim in respect of the rights of these Lacys; see *Final Conc.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), iii, 31. In 1500 the messuage and lands in Spotland held by Thomas Holt, who died in 1494, were stated to have been occupied by Richard Belfield; they were held of the king by knight's service; *Duchy of Lanc. Inq. p.m.* iii, no. 46. In 1555 and later the 'manor of Spotland' is named as part of the estate; *ibid.* x, no. 48 &c. Naden was in 1562 held by Thomas Holt (of Gristlehurst) of Charles Holt of Stubley, who held of the queen; but a rent of 2s. was payable and 6d. also to the Earl of Derby; *ibid.* xi, no. 46. Robert Holt in 1626 held 121 acres in the hamlet of Spotland and claimed one messuage as his manor house; *Surv. in Raines MSS.* xxi, 171.

At Naden (Nauden or Naveden) a minor Holt family were in occupation about 1600; *Fishwick*, op. cit. 510. In earlier times it had been given by Hugh de Eland in free marriage with Margery his daughter, wife of Gilbert de Notton; *Whalley Coucher*, iii, 640.

It gave a name to the immediate holders. Maud widow of Thomas de Naden claimed dower in a messuage and land in Wolstenholme in 1277 against Roger son of Robert de Naden; *De Banco R.* 21, m. 54, 58. Adam de Naden occurs in 1323-5, and John his son in 1325; *Lancs. Cr. R.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), 17, 143, 150. Somewhat later Henry de Naden is named as witness to a charter; *Duchy of Lanc. Assize R.* 1, m. 4. William de Naden was plaintiff in 1364 respecting lands in Spotland; *De Banco R.* 418, m. 376. Isabel widow of Thomas Naden claimed dower in Spotland in 1516 against James Holt; *Pal. of Lanc. Plea R.* 119, m. 8. Part of Naden was held by the Chadderton family.

The district known as Naden lies partly in Wolstenholme.

⁷ Adam de Spotland, living about 1190, gave to Rochdale Church 6 acres in Spotland in Watland Wood, Doning Booth, and Chadwick by Ireford; these were granted to Alexander his son, a clerk, who passed them on to his brother John; *Whalley Coucher*, iii, 727-31. Henry son of John de Spotland granted Hugh son of Martin meadow in the Mosiley, and afterwards made a grant to Stanlaw; *ibid.* iii, 732, 753. Hugh and Henry sons of Martin de Spotland were also benefactors; *ibid.* iii, 736, 752. Martin is also called 'de Witley'; *ibid.* iii, 733.

Henry son of Geoffrey de Whalley gave

to Michael son of Robert the Reeve (already mentioned) an oxgang in Spotland at 13½d. rent; and Michael son of Robert de Spotland gave half an oxgang to his brother Alexander, lying on the Chadwick side of Redbrook, within these bounds—Redbrook, Catshaw, Selfull Lache, Grimsley Carr, Blacklache under Selfull, the lache towards Naden, by Naden to Bagslate, Helesclough, Roch, Spotbrook, and Redbrook; but Redfern and Twofoldhe were excepted; *ibid.* iii, 739. Alexander de Spotland afterwards gave this half oxgang of land to the monks of Stanlaw; *ibid.* iii, 741.

Randle de Spotland in 1292 claimed common of pasture against the Abbot of Stanlaw, but was nonsuited; *Assize R.* 408, m. 30.

⁸ *Assize R.* 408, m. 68 d.; some other pleas at the same assize show a like ownership; m. 27 d, 73 d. Earlier than this, in 1278, John de Lacy had complained that the Abbot of Stanlaw, Robert de Whitworth, and German his brother had cut down his trees, &c. at Spotland; *De Banco R.* 23, m. 40.

Richard son of Ivo is probably the same who occurs in Clegg in Butterworth.

⁹ These hamlets are not recognized in the Survey of 1626. Catley is no doubt connected with the Catshaw named in a former note.

¹⁰ Alexander de 'Ailwarderod' released to the monks of Stanlaw the rent of 1d. due to him from land purchased from his brother Michael in Spotland, belonging to an oxgang in Broadhalgh; *Whalley Coucher*, iii, 754. From another charter it appears that this Alexander was also known as Cotterel (iii, 759); he seems also to be the Alexander son of Robert the Reeve already mentioned.

In more recent times Ellenrod was owned by a Chadwick family; *Fishwick*, op. cit. 496.

¹¹ It was part of the Whalley lands. Alan de Marland gave to Andrew his son, at a rent of 2d., the land called Broderod in Spotland with the appurtenances of half an oxgang; *Whalley Coucher*, iii, 762. Andrew son of Alan de Marland by his will left all his land in Spotland, held of Adam his brother, to the monks of Stanlaw, together with his body; the rent of 2d. was to be paid to Adam and his heirs; *ibid.* iii, 790. The rent appears to be that of Henry son of Martin for land in Witley which was released by Adam; *ibid.* ii, 600. Henry son of Henry de Witley granted to the monks all his right in Broderode; *ibid.* iii, 678. About 1540 the wife of James Green was the tenant; *ibid.* iv, 1,225.

It formed part of the estate of the Holts of Gristlehurst, and was in the 18th century purchased by James Roys of Deepish, in whose family it has since descended; *Fishwick*, op. cit. 497.

¹² A number of deeds about Copthurst and Coptrud will be found in the *Whalley Coucher*, iii, 733-6, 764; ii, 600. About 1540 James Gartside held 2 oxgates of land and a 'peacle' of pasture in Coptrud at a rent of 16s. 8d.; *ibid.* iv, 1226.

The old 'town of Spotland' afterwards became divided into the hamlets of Catley Lane and Woodhouse Lane.⁹ The former included lands and estates of which only a brief mention can be given: Ellenrod,¹⁰ Brotherod,¹¹ Coptrud,¹² Caldershaw, Broadley, Greave,¹³ Redfern,¹⁴ and some others;¹⁵ the latter—Woodhouse¹⁶ and Sidholme.¹⁷ The

See also the account of the Linneys below.

¹³ See *Whalley Coucher*, iii, 776, and note; also *Fishwick*, op. cit. 503. Edward Rawthorne in 1563 obtained two messuages, &c. in Spotland from his father Lawrence; *Pal. of Lanc. Feet of F.* bde. 25, m. 231.

¹⁴ Alexander son of Robert de Spotland gave to the monks of Stanlaw the rent of 7½d. due from Henry de Redfern for Fernilea and Redfern; *Whalley Coucher*, iii, 753.

Thomas Redfern, who died in 1601, held a messuage in Redfern in Spotland and another in Wolstenholme; James, his son and heir, was fifty years of age; *Duchy of Lanc. Inq. p.m.* xviii, no. 28. See also *Fishwick*, op. cit. 506.

¹⁵ Among others whose holdings are recorded in the Surv. of 1626 (ut sup. 173-7) are Henry son and heir of John Hopwood, 75 acres, paying a rent of 10d. to (the assigns of) Savile; Jordan Chadwick (see Healey), 47 acres, paying 9d. to Robert Holt; John Whittakers, 53 acres, paying 3s. to Robert Holt and 6d. to Theophilus Holt; the widow of Alexander Butterworth (see Belfield), 89 acres; and the heir of Robert Holt of Ashworth (see Wolstenholme) claimed 85.

Thomas Hopwood and Alice his wife in 1575 made a settlement of their lands, mill, &c.; *Pal. of Lanc. Feet of F.* bde. 37, m. 78. Thomas died at Spotland on 2 January 1627-8, holding four messuages, a water corn-mill, &c. in Spotland and Hundersfield; the heir was his grandson Henry (son of John, son of Thomas), thirteen years of age. Priscilla, the widow of John, afterwards married Robert Chadwick. By a settlement made in 1609 the estates had been settled on John and his heirs male, with remainder to his daughter Alice. The lands were held of Sir John Byron, except an acre in Spotland, held of the king; *Duchy of Lanc. Inq. p.m.* xxvii, no. 70. The residence was known as Spotland Gate. It was at one time the property of W. Harrison Ainsworth, the novelist; *Fishwick*, op. cit. 515-18, where there is a pedigree.

Samuel Hopwood, who died in 1640, held a messuage, &c., in Spotland of Robert Holt of Castleton and Thomas Holt of Gristlehurst; he left a son and heir John, twenty-six years of age; *Duchy of Lanc. Inq. p.m.* xxix, no. 89. He lived in Woodhouse Lane; *Fishwick*, op. cit. 518.

¹⁶ It was for several centuries the residence of a family named Bentley; see *Fishwick*, op. cit. 518.

Samuel Greave of Woodhouse in 1626 held various lands in Spotland, for which he paid quit-rents as follows: To the king, 13s. 4d.; to the suppressed priory of St. John, 9½d.; and to Holt of Stubley, 12d.; *Surv. in Raines MSS.* xxi, 179.

¹⁷ This was formerly part of the estate of the Radcliffes of Langley, and then of the Bamfords; see *Fishwick*, op. cit. 519.

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common lands in Spotland in 1626 measured 1,000 acres, including 672 in Shore Moor, Hunger Hill, &c.¹⁸

CHADWICK¹⁹ gave a surname to its principal landowners, who can be traced from early times till their extinction in the 18th century.²⁰ Oliver Chadwick died in July 1542 holding a capital messuage in Spotland and various other messuages and land there of Robert Holt of Stubley in socage by a rent of 12d.; Roger his son and heir was twenty years of age.²¹ Roger died about the end of 1610,²² and his son Oliver in 1621; the latter held the capital messuage, as before, of John Holt of Stubley by a rent of 12d., also other lands of James Holt and of Sir John Byron by rents of 6d. and 2d. respectively; his son and heir John was thirty years old.²³

John dying without issue about 1631 the estate went to a cousin, also John Chadwick—son of Robert, a younger son of the above-named Roger; his son Jonathan recorded a pedigree in 1664.²⁴ Though Jonathan had four sons and three daughters, all died without issue, the last of the family being Sarah Chadwick, who died in 1722, unmarried.²⁵ She left her estates to a relative, the Rev. Roger Kay,²⁶ and he



CHADWICK of Chadwick. Gules an escutcheon within an orle of martlets argent.

gave Chadwick Hall to Bury Grammar School, on refounding it in 1726.²⁷

CHADWICK HALL is situated about 1½ miles to the west of Rochdale on the Bury Road, and is now a farm-house. The date 1620 is on a stone on the north side, but the present house is only a fragment of the building erected by Oliver Chadwick in that year. A view of the hall as it existed in 1799²⁸ shows a long two-story stone building, the principal front facing south, with three gables and a projecting wing at the east end. The north front had two gables only at its east end, the western half being under one long roof and having an upper bay window of eleven lights and a porch leading into a through passage forming the screens. At the north-east was a large detached barn standing at right angles to the main building. This barn, along with the whole of the west end of the house, including the through passage-way, has now disappeared, and all that remains is the original east wing and adjoining hall, having a total frontage north and south of 45 ft. The building shows two gables on each front, with low mullioned windows with hood-moulds, and has stone-slatted roofs. There is some oak panelling in one of the lower rooms, but otherwise the interior of the house is without interest, and the south side of the east wing has been modernized and sash-windows inserted. A new barn was erected about 1840 to the east of the present house, on part of the site of the destroyed wing.

In the same hamlet were the estates of Oakenrod²⁹

¹⁸ Manor Surv. ut sup. 190.

¹⁹ Robert son of Adam de Spotland gave to Henry son of Peter de Haworth as much land within the bounds of Chadwick as pertained to 2 oxgangs of land, one inherited and the other purchased from John de Lacy, the said bounds being: From the Roch to Redbrook, up this to Catshaw, thence to Scholefull lache, to Grimsley, up to Black lache, as far as Naden, descending by Naden up to the boundary between Chadwick and Bamford, along this boundary as far as the Roch, and so back to the starting-point; *Whalley Coucher*, iii, 796.

²⁰ The Chadwicks were probably a branch or continuation of one of the Spotland families, for, as already stated, about 1190 Adam de Spotland gave an acre in Chadwick to Rochdale Church; *ibid.* iii, 727. Robert son of Adam de Chadwick gave to Stanlaw Abbey some land in Chadwick; *ibid.* iii, 776. Henry son of Martin de Spotland gave to Stanlaw the land his father had bought from Robert de Chadwick within the bounds of Sedewalhelin nabbe; *ibid.* iii, 752. Andrew son of Henry de Chadwick made various grants to the monks, including a release of 4d. rent, dated 1308; *ibid.* iii, 785-7. Some of these grants mention Ireford in Chadwick, and Robert son of Andrew de Chadwick about 1250 gave the monks two assarts in Ireford heys; *ibid.* iii, 789. Andrew son of Henry de Chadwick may be the same as Andrew son of Henry de Spotland, who appears between 1277 and 1308 as releasing various small rents due from the monks; *ibid.* iii, 788, 797; and see *ibid.* 605. Chadwick ford is also named.

In 1369 William son of John de Chadwick and Agnes his wife purchased various messuages and lands in Spotland from Geoffrey de Lightollers and Cecily his wife, Adam de Clegg and Agnes

his wife, and Adam del Brook and Margaret his wife; *Final Conc.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), ii, 175. William and Henry de Chadwick were living in 1381; *Fishwick, Rochdale*, 34.

Robert son of Nicholas de Chadwick in 1445 granted his lands to Henry son of his brother John; *Fishwick*, op. cit. 489 (quoting Sydhall title deeds). An estate in Spotland and Hundersfield was in 1509 settled by Hugh Chadwick the elder, John, his son, and Hugh son of John; but these do not seem to have been of the Chadwick Hall family; *Final Conc.* iii, 167.

²¹ Duchy of Lanc. Inq. p.m. ix, no. 16. About 1540 he held lands of the late abbey of Whalley by a rent of 1s.; *Whalley Coucher*, iv, 1225.

²² An abstract of his will is printed in *Wills* (Chet. Soc.) (new ser.), i, 206.

²³ *Lancs. Inq. p.m.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), ii, 275. John Chadwick of Chadwick Hall held 106 acres in 1626; *Surv. ut sup.* 161.

²⁴ Dugdale, *Visit.* (Chet. Soc.), 73.

²⁵ See *Fishwick*, op. cit. 487-90, where there is a pedigree.

²⁶ Corry, *Lancs.* ii, 552.

²⁷ *Char. Rep.* of 1828, xix, 216. The gift included Coptrod, Bagslate, Bentwood, and other lands in Spotland.

²⁸ Illustrations of the north and south fronts in 1799 are given in Corry, *Lancs.* i, 268.

²⁹ Alexander de Ellenrod granted a moiety of Oakenrod to the monks of Stanlaw, and Alexander de Oakenrod, son of Robert de Spotland, gave them all his land in Twofoldhe; *Whalley Coucher*, iii, 755-6.

In 1273 Robert son of Alexander de Oakenrod gave to Adam, son of Richard son of John de Hulton (see the account of Buckley), the rents due from Adam de Bamford and another for pieces of land in Chadwick; *Agcroft D.* no. 333.

William de Turnagh acquired land in Spotland in 1299; *Final Conc.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), i, 188. He gave Adam de Bradley lands in Oakenrod and the Greave, to be held of the chief lords, John de Eland and Henry de Lacy, by the accustomed services, viz. a rent of 2d. to each; *Fishwick*, op. cit. 491, quoting the Survey of 1626.

In the reign of Elizabeth the Radcliffes of Ordsall held a messuage, fulling-mill, &c., in Spotland and Oakenrod, of the queen in socage; *Duchy of Lanc. Inq. p.m.* xiii, no. 33; xv, no. 45.

Afterwards it passed into the possession of the Gartside, who held it for about a century; it is now owned by the Royds family; *Fishwick*, op. cit. 493-6, where there is a pedigree.

James Gartside died 25 February 1625-6 holding a messuage and lands in Spotland of Robert Holt, and leaving a widow Isabel and three young daughters—Susanna, Alice, and Anne—as heirs. He left his lands to his brother Henry, who was to give the daughters marriage portions; *Towneley MS. C*, 8, 13 (Chet. Lib.), 465. Henry Gartside held 75 acres in 1626; *Surv. ut sup.* 160. He died 29 January 1636-7, holding Oakenrod below Rochdale of Robert Holt, and leaving a son James, a year old. James was the younger son, Gabriel the elder having, it appears, died soon after his father, who names him in his will. There were also three daughters. Samuel, brother of Henry, was next heir male; *Towneley MS. C*, 8, 13, p. 466. See Dugdale, *Visit.* (Chet. Soc.), 115.

Gabriel Gartside, who resided in Butterworth, was guardian to the heir of his cousin Henry Gartside of Oakenrod, and at the beginning of the Civil War was on that account required to send a soldier to the muster held by Lord Strange; but, according to his own story, he had tried to

and Broadhalgh.³⁰ *OAKENROD HALL* stands in a commanding position on high ground above the River Roch, and is a two-story stone-built house, with stone-slatted roofs, now in a state of semi-dilapidation and let in several tenements. It overlooks the river and has a long irregularly broken elevation of about 80 ft. to the east, which appears to have been added to at various times; but the principal front faces west with a regular frontage of about 45 ft., with a north wing, apparently a later addition, projecting some 25 ft., and a large stone chimney in its south gable. There is no date on the building, but it appears to have been erected about the middle of the 17th century, probably replacing an older house on the same site, but it was much altered about the beginning of the 18th century during the residence of Edmund Butterworth. The principal or west front has little architectural distinction, the roof being straight with overhanging eaves, and has five large mullioned and transomed windows on each floor, with a central entrance which preserves its original oak door and iron hinges. The rectangular space in front is inclosed as a garden by a fence wall with moulded coping, and the old gate piers with square moulded caps still remain opposite the entrance. There was formerly another gateway to the garden at the south-west angle, but this is built up and the piers gone. Both sets of

piers had formerly ornamental tops, but these have disappeared. The east front must have been originally the more picturesque, but it is now spoiled by additions and is in a bad state of repair. The walling is of rough stone, and some of the windows retain their old diamond quarries with wide leading painted white. In the cottage at the south-east corner are the remains of a fine oak staircase with twisted balusters and a large tapering twisted newel-post going up to the ceiling and supporting a beam above. The stairs are apparently not in their original position, half balusters coming awkwardly in front of a window.³¹

The hamlet of Clay Lane, in the western corner, seems to have been taken out of Chadwick. Bagslate Common in 1626 contained 114 acres.³²

WOLSTENHOLME appears to have been held by the Chethams.³³ It likewise gave a surname to the principal owner or resident.³⁴ The old hall was a two-story stone-built house with gables and mullioned windows, but all trace of it has now disappeared.³⁵ In 1626 the largest estate was that of Samuel Bamford of Bamford.³⁶



WOLSTENHOLME of Wolstenholme. *Azure a lion passant guardant between three pheons or.*

withdraw the man from the king's side, and had supplied men and money for the Parliament. Unfortunately he was afterwards 'encompassed by the enemy, surprised, and brought into Lathom,' but escaping made his way to the Parliamentary quarters. His property was sequestered, and though he took the National Covenant he had to pay a fine of £28; *Royalist Composition Papers* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), iii, 2-4. A pedigree was recorded in 1664-5.

³⁰ John son of Robert de Spotland granted to William the Serjeant, at 1d. rent, land in Broadhalgh, as much as pertained to 1 oxgang; the bounds are thus described: from Elyslough, where it met the Roch, up as far as the hedge, thence by ditches to Dogwall, by Dogwall-clough to the Roch, and so to the starting-point; *Whalley Coucher*, iii, 757. The 1d. rent was afterwards released; *ibid.* iii, 754.

For the more recent history see Fishwick, op. cit. 503.

In 1626 Robert Holt held 113 acres in Chadwick; *Surv. ut sup.* 160.

³¹ There is an illustration of Oakenrod Hall in 1830 in Fishwick, *Rochdale*, 492, from a sketch by George Shaw in Raines MSS. i, 56.

³² *Surv. ut sup.* 168.

³³ Lands in Wolstenholme and Butterworth, apparently the Chetham inheritance, were settled in 1278; *Final Conc.* i, 154. Geoffrey de Chadderton in 1311 held an oxgang of land in Wolstenholme by the service of 12d. a year, and Roger de Pilkington also held an oxgang in 'Pilkington' by the same service; *De Lacy Inq.* (Chet. Soc.), 20. John de Radcliffe of Chadderton was plaintiff in 1367 respecting Spotland, and defendant in 1370; *De Banco R.* 426, m. 35, 86 d.; 440, m. 244. In the next year Thomas son of Thomas de Bamford claimed a messuage and land in Spotland against John de Radcliffe; *ibid.* R. 441, m. 57. Later the Standishes and Ashtons of Chadderton held land in Rochdale of the king; *Duchy*

of Lanc. Inq. p.m. viii, no. 4, 21, 23. In a deed of partition in 1534 part of the land is called Nadenland in Spotland, Thomas Holt and Ralph Naden being tenants; Robert Holt paid 6d. for the attachment of a mill in Wolstenholme, and there were other messuages and lands in Spotland and Hundersfield; Raines D. in the Chetham Library.

Sir John de Pilkington (perhaps by inheritance from Chetham) held Greenbooths in Spotland in 1424, and granted it to Geoffrey son of John de Holt; Raines MSS. (Chet. Lib.), i, 197.

³⁴ Among the witnesses to Adam de Spotland's charter, c. 1190, already cited, were Martin de Wolstenholme, Robert his brother, Andrew de Wolstenholme, and Henry his brother; *Whalley Coucher*, iii, 728. John de Wolstenholme occurs in 1309; *ibid.* iii, 784. John also appears in 1332; *Exch. Lay Subs.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), 33.

Thomas son of Thomas de Wolstenholme did not prosecute a claim for land in Spotland against John de Buersill and others in 1329; *Assize R.* 427, m. 3 d.

At Pentecost 1352 Robert son of Robert de 'Hayward' claimed a messuage and lands in Spotland against Robert son of John de Wolstenholme; *Duchy of Lanc. Assize R.* 2, m. 8 d.

In 1626 an 'ancient grant' by Sir Henry Savile to Thomas son of Thurstan Wolstenholme was produced, of land called Wolstenholme; a rent of 2s. was due; *Surv. ut sup.* 193. *

John Wolstenholme who died in 1555-6 held a messuage called Wolstenholme, with lands, water-mill, &c., of Sir Henry Savile in socage, by a rent of 2s.; he also held lands called Bradshaw of the king and queen by a rent of 2d. John his son and heir was nineteen years of age; *Duchy of Lanc. Inq. p.m. x*, no. 39. Bradshaw is mentioned in a Whitworth charter in the *Whalley Coucher*, iii, 675.

John Wolstenholme and Jane his wife in 1582 sold ten messuages, &c., in Wolstenholme to Thomas and Lawrence

Hardman; *Pal. of Lanc. Feet of F. bdle.* 44, m. 146. Thomas Hardman in 1626 held only 47 acres; *Surv.* 194. Some further notes about the Wolstenholme family are given in Fishwick, op. cit. 526-8.

³⁵ *Ibid.* 528, where a sketch of the house in 1830, by George Shaw, is given.

³⁶ The Bamford family were very early holders of land in the neighbourhood. Robert de Spotland released to the monks of Stanlaw his right in Stonlegh, with the homage and service (19d.) of Thomas de Bamford; *Whalley Coucher*, iii, 776. Thomas and Adam his brother occur from 1277 to 1310; *ibid.* iii, 788-95. Robert son of Thomas de Bamford was defendant to a Spotland claim in 1311; *De Banco R.* 189, m. 9 d.

Adam de Bamford in 1324-31 gave all his lands in Chadwick to Sir Richard de Byron; *Byron Chartul.* no. 16/203, 2/204.

Richard de Bamford was in 1323 defendant in a Spotland plea; *De Banco R.* 247, m. 3 d. He was again in 1330 defendant to a claim for a messuage in Spotland made by Adam the Clerk of Bury and Agnes his wife; *ibid.* R. 281, m. 221 d.

Avice daughter of Thomas de Bamford in Lent 1352 claimed two messuages, 30 acres of land, &c., against Roger (a minor) son of Beatrice, daughter of John Stike-wind, and others; the plaintiff was one of the heirs of Thomas son of Richard de Bamford, but it was alleged that Thomas had alienated the tenement in dispute; *Duchy of Lanc. Assize R.* i, m. 4.

James Scholefield in 1544 purchased a messuage and land in Spotland from Arthur Bamford; *Pal. of Lanc. Feet of F. bdle.* 12, m. 250. In 1557 Adam Bamford had lands, &c., in Wolstenholme and Spotland; *ibid.* bdle. 17, m. 177.

John Bamford, of Bamford and Withington, died in 1559, holding a messuage, &c., in Spotland of Robert Holt and Robert Savile in socage by a rent of 2s. 8d.; *Duchy of Lanc. Inq. p.m. xi*, no. 61. A little later the tenure is described as the hundredth part of a knight's

A HISTORY OF LANCASHIRE

The Holts of Gristlehurst³⁷ and Ashworth³⁸ were also holders of land there. In 1626 there were common lands measuring 823 acres.³⁹

FALINGE, a dependency of Whitworth, was held by a local family, who were among the benefactors of Stanlaw Abbey.⁴⁰ John Royds purchased part of the hamlet in 1756, and his descendants are now the chief landowners there.⁴¹ The Hospitallers had some land in the hamlet, in which was St. Mary's Croft, held in 1626 by Robert Holt.⁴²



ROYDS of Falinge. Ermine on a cross engrailed between four lions rampant gules a spear in pale proper between four bezants.

Two oxgangs in **HEALEY**, which was also a dependency of Whitworth, had belonged to Hugh de Eland, who gave them in free marriage with his daughter Wymark, wife of Jordan de Mitton. They were acquired by Gilbert de Notton and given to Stanlaw Abbey.⁴³



HEALEY of Healey. Azure three boars' heads couped in pale argent.

The Healeys of Healey, who were benefactors of Stanlaw,⁴⁴ appear to have been succeeded by a branch of the Chadwicks.⁴⁵ John Chadwick died in November 1496 holding two messuages and lands in Hundersfield, Spotland, and Butterworth of the king as Duke of Lancaster; Thomas, his son

fee; *ibid.* xi, no. 38. In 1619 the tenure of the messuage, &c., in Spotland was described as of Sir John Byron the younger and John Holt in socage by 2s. 8d. rent; *Lancs. Inq. p.m.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), ii, 179.

Samuel son of William Bamford in 1626 held 322 acres, which had been the Wolstenholme family's estates, as he produced their charter; *Surv. ut sup.* 192.

In a plea of 1326 a charter was adduced by which Adam de Bury gave land in Wolstenholme to Thomas de Strangeways and Agnes his wife; *Abbrev. Plac.* (Rec. Com.), 355. As late as 1581 a Thomas Strangeways had land, &c., in Spotland and Rochdale; *Pal. of Lanc. Feet of F. bdle.* 43, m. 152.

³⁷ *Surv. ut sup.* 196; Theophilus Holt had 149 acres.

³⁸ *Ibid.* 196; Richard son and heir of Robert Holt of Ashworth held 142 acres. The lands of Robert Holt in Wolstenholme, Spotland, Marcroft Gate, and Cheesden, had been held of the Ashtons of Middleton as part of the Bamford estate; *Lancs. Inq. p.m.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), iii, 441.

Other Ashtons held lands in Spotland. Thus James Ashton and Anne his wife in 1545 made a settlement of six messuages, &c., in Wolstenholme, Spotland, and Hundersfield; *Pal. of Lanc. Feet of F. bdle.* 12, m. 184. Arthur Ashton (see the account of Clegg) in 1547 purchased ten messuages, &c., in Hundersfield and Spotland from James Gartside, and the same (or another ten) from Roger Gartside in 1558; *ibid.* *bdle.* 13, m. 233; 19, m. 92. In 1566 he purchased land from Richard Linney and Katherine his wife; *ibid.* *bdle.* 28, m. 269. (Richard Linney had in 1564 purchased lands, &c., in Spotland and Hundersfield from Lawrence Buckley and Margaret his wife; *ibid.* *bdle.* 26, m. 74.) Richard Ashton and Elizabeth his wife sold some land in Spotland in 1562; *ibid.* *bdle.* 24, m. 51.

John Chadwick of Yelandrod had two messuages and lands in Wolstenholme in 1588; *ibid.* *bdle.* 50, no. 26. For Yelandrod see Fishwick, *op. cit.* 81.

³⁹ *Surv. ut sup.* 206.

⁴⁰ A moiety of Falinge was included in the grant of Whitworth made to Stanlaw by John de Eland; *Whalley Coucher*, iii, 637.

Orm de Falinge gave $\frac{1}{4}$ oxgang in Halwerdewer to his son Robert; a rent of 13 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. was to be paid to Stanlaw; *ibid.* i, 155.

Andrew and Randle sons of Orm de Falinge granted to the monks of Stanlaw

the rents they had received from certain lands; and Adam son of Geoffrey de Falinge gave the homage and service of William son of William the Serjeant and Adam son of Henry del Field; *ibid.* iii, 769-71.

Adam son of Henry del Field (called 'de Spotland' in the title) surrendered to the monks the house and land he had held of them; and Robert son of Adam son of Henry confirmed it; *ibid.* iii, 774-5. The latter may be the Robert son of Adam de Falinge who released to the abbey all claim to his hereditary lands in the hamlet; *ibid.* iii, 794. In 1330 Randle son of Gilbert de Falinge gave to the monks of Whalley all his lands, &c., in the 'Falenges' in the vill of Spotland; *ibid.* iii, 798-9.

It came into the hands of the Holts of Gristlehurst with the rest of Spotland, as is shown by the inquisition of 1562 already cited. Theophilus Holt in 1626 held 154 acres; *Surv. ut sup.* 152.

⁴¹ Fishwick, *Rochdale*, 509-12, where a pedigree of the Royds family may be seen.

⁴² *Surv.* 153. There is quoted in the same place the grant of land in Falinge made by Lawrence Buckley of Whitfield in 1564 (see fine already cited) to Richard Linney, great-grandfather of Edmund Linney, living in 1626.

⁴³ *Whalley Coucher*, iii, 680; ii, 623; see also iii, 637.

⁴⁴ Anketil son of Andrew the Chaplain of Rochdale gave to his brother Clement an oxgang of land in Healey with an assart there, at a rent of 12d. and four horse irons; *ibid.* iii, 781. It was probably the same oxgang which about 1200-20 Robert the son of Anketil de Healey gave to Stanlaw Abbey at a rent of 16d.; *ibid.* Clement son of Andrew the Priest held another oxgang of Hugh son of Jordan de Mitton at a rent of 6d.; *ibid.* iii, 782. Clement sold both oxgangs to the abbey; *ibid.* iii, 777.

Dolfin de Healey had two sons, Adam and Henry, who had lands in Castleton; *ibid.* ii, 596-7. In a note Canon Raines, quoting the Healey deeds, says that Henry had a son John who died about 1272 holding house and land at Healey; Andrew the son of John was in possession in 1310, and by his wife Avice daughter of Henry de Marland had a son Thomas, whose only child Avice, wife of Adam son of Nicholas de Ogden, in 1338 released to her son Alexander all her lands in the vill of Spotland; Alice de Ogden, a descendant and co-heir of Alexander, married John Chadwick of Healey before 1445.

Peter de Healey granted the monks the

land called Healeyhalghes, the bounds going from Shore to Heaves in Balshaw, to the brook, to Falinge Syke, Spot Brook (Spodden), Arnolds Rode, Elis Rode, and Light Hazels; *ibid.* iii, 777. William the son of Peter and others made supplementary grants; *ibid.* iii, 668, 778-80.

John son of Elote de Healey in 1292 had to defend his title to a messuage and a half oxgang in Spotland against Adam of the Bergh, grandson and heir of Robert the Clerk of Anglezarke; *Assize R.* 408, m. 3. Robert de Anglezarke, clerk, held 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ oxgangs in Healey by grant of Adam son of William de Healey, who held of the Abbot of Stanlaw; and Richard son of Robert afterwards surrendered it to the abbot; *Whalley Coucher*, ii, 615-17. Adam of the Bergh appears as plaintiff in 1300; *De Banco R.* 134, m. 135d.

John son of Richard de Tonwallcliff in 1355 secured damages in a claim against the Abbot of Whalley and Alexander de Healey; it appeared that Richard held a messuage and land of the abbot in socage, but Alexander de Healey, pretending that the tenure was knight's service, took possession, John being a minor; *Duchy of Lanc. Assize R.* 4, m. 8. John de Tonwallcliff was again plaintiff in 1374, William son of Geoffrey de Healey being defendant; *De Banco R.* 456, m. 10. Tonwallcliff is several times named in the *Whalley Coucher*, e.g. iii, 658, 660.

Ellen widow of Adam de Hopwood claimed dower in Spotland in 1370 against William son of Geoffrey de Healey; *De Banco R.* 440, m. 118d.

About 1540 the abbey tenants included William and James Healey and Richard Lord; *Whalley Coucher*, iv, 1232, 1225.

In 1594 John Healey and Susan his wife held a messuage and lands in Spotland; *Pal. of Lanc. Feet of F. bdle.* 56, m. 62. In 1626 John son of Thomas Healey held 113 acres in Healey, paying a quit rent of 2s. to Theophilus Holt; while Thomas Healey of Lower Healey (son of Thomas) held 30 acres; *Surv. ut sup.*, 209, 210. Theophilus Holt (as representing Whalley Abbey) had 106 acres in his own hands; *ibid.* 208.

⁴⁵ See preceding note. In 1626 Jordan Chadwick, holding 86 acres, produced a charter from Richard de Healey to John his brother, granting land in Healey at a rent of 12d.; a half oxgang held by Henry son of William was excepted; *ibid.* 208. See also Fishwick, *Rochdale*, 482-5. Abstracts of a number of the Chadwick of Healey evidences are printed in Corry, *Lancs.* ii, 645, &c.

and heir, was only ten years of age, and his wardship was granted to James Stanley, clerk.⁴⁶ His descendant, Jordan Chadwick, died in 1634, holding a messuage in Healey, together with other messuages and lands in Spotland and Hundersfield; John, his son and heir, was seventeen years of age.⁴⁷ The common land of Healey in 1626 was 240 acres in extent.⁴⁸

HEALEY HALL stands on elevated ground commanding a wide prospect, about 2 miles north-west of Rochdale, and is a plain rectangular stone classic building with pediment and cornice, erected in 1774 in place of an older house which dated from 1618, and was in its turn a rebuilding of a still older structure. The 17th-century building was of two stories with four gables to the front, and with mullioned and transomed windows on the ground floor and low mullioned windows above.⁴⁹ This house being much decayed, in 1773 was taken down and the present mansion, which is said to be 'exactly of the same extent in front as the old house and on the same site,'⁵⁰ built. In the early part of the 19th century the house was divided into two tenements, but has since been restored to its original state. Over the back door is an inscribed stone taken from the old house with a number of initials of the Chadwick family and the date 1618.⁵¹

WHITWORTH was, about 1200, held in moieties by the Elands and Liversedges.⁵² John de Eland granted his moiety to Stanlaw Abbey; it included

the services of the moieties of Healey and Falinge; the monks were to pay the ancient farm of 4s. for Whitworth, and 2s. for the other hamlets.⁵³ Robert de Liversedge gave his moiety to Sawley Abbey, at a rent of 4s., and Robert de Flamborough confirmed the grant.⁵⁴ The Abbot of Sawley transferred it, at the same rent, to the nuns of Hampole,⁵⁵ and the prioress and convent in 1259 granted their land in Whitworth to Robert son of Randle the White, at a rent of 16s.⁵⁶ Of this portion the Abbot of Stanlaw held 2 oxgangs, or a moiety, and Andrew son of Robert de Whitworth granted his rights in the remainder sometime after the abbey had been translated to Whalley.⁵⁷ In 1322 an inquiry was held as to the loss the king might sustain by this alienation, and licence of mortmain was subsequently granted.⁵⁸ Whitworth, like Spotland, was acquired by the Holts of Gristlehurst, and in 1626 Theophilus Holt was the principal owner, having nearly two-thirds of the land in his possession.⁵⁹ Facit⁶⁰ and Tong⁶¹ were parts of the Whalley lands. The Common in 1626 measured 515 acres in three parcels.⁶²

BRANDWOOD was granted to Stanlaw by Roger de Lacy about 1200,⁶³ and passed to the Holts; Theophilus Holt, in 1626, held nearly the whole of it.⁶⁴ It is called Rossendale in the Survey.

As in the other townships of the parish, there were from old time a large number of freeholders, whose names may be collected from various documents, including especially the Survey of 1626.⁶⁵ There was

⁴⁶ Duchy of Lanc. Inq. p.m. iii, no. 42; the services due were not known.

⁴⁷ Ibid. xxvii, no. 36. The tenures are not stated. A curious pedigree appears in the printed *Visit.* of 1613 (Chet. Soc.), 110. Another pedigree was recorded in 1664; see Dugdale, *Visit.* (Chet. Soc.), 74.

The family, retaining Healey Hall, afterwards settled at Ridware in Staffordshire. Charles Chadwick, who died in 1829, was an antiquary.

⁴⁸ Surv. ut sup. 215.

⁴⁹ There is an elevation of Old Healey Hall in Corry's *Lancs.* ii, 553.

⁵⁰ Corry, *Lancs.* ii, 637, where a description of the new building is given.

⁵¹ Fishwick, *Rochdale*, 485. On the house is a long Latin inscription adapted from Horace, and a stone cut in 1800 bears on it 'John de Heley, 1250,' and 'i.c. 1483.'

⁵² The history of the Liversedge moiety is told in the Inq. a.q.d. of 1322; *Whalley Coucher*, iii, 706-8.

⁵³ Ibid. iii, 637. The grantor reserved his right to hunt. By a second charter he granted the waste, and then gave Hallsteads and Swineshead; *ibid.* 639-43.

A large number of charters concerning Whitworth are given in the *Coucher*, iii, 637-726. For the tenants about 1540 see *ibid.* iv, 1226-8, Whitworth, Tong End, and Rockcliffe. The commons were Bagden, Prickshaw, and Trough.

⁵⁴ Ibid. iii, 719, 720, 726.

⁵⁵ Ibid. iii, 720.

⁵⁶ Ibid. iii, 695.

⁵⁷ Ibid. iii, 703, 711, 712.

⁵⁸ Ibid. iii, 704, 721.

At the inquisition it was shown that the Abbot of Stanlaw had held 2 oxgangs of land of Robert de Whitworth by a rent of 8s. 2d., Germain, Robert's brother, 1 oxgang, by 3s. 6d.; Geoffrey de Whitworth, ½ oxgang, by 1s. 2d.; and Michael de Shaw, 2 acres, by 2d. rent; *ibid.* iii, 707.

Thus ¾ oxgang was left to Robert de Whitworth himself. The rents payable to Andrew son of Robert in 1321 were—Abbot of Whalley, 8s. 2d.; Robert son of Henry son of Gemme, 3s. 6d.; Thomas son of Robert del Stock, 1s. 2d.; and John son of Michael de Shaw, 2d.; *ibid.* iii, 703. In 1331 Robert son of Henry de Whitworth had a rent of 10d. from Geoffrey (son) of Adam de Buckley, 8d. from John son of Richard son of Swain, and a peppercorn from Henry del Stock; *ibid.* iii, 723. John de Buckley in 1339 released to Whalley all his right in the thirtieth part of Whitworth; *ibid.* iii, 725.

⁵⁹ Surv. ut sup. 217. Other holders were Richard Milne, 61 acres; Jordan Chadwick (Healey), 74 acres; and Robert Holt, copyhold land called Ugshott, 187 acres. Ugshott land is named in a grant by Swain de Whitworth to the monks of Stanlaw; *Whalley Coucher*, iii, 654.

⁶⁰ Ibid. iii, 686, 664; it is called Faghside. James Marland claimed Facit in 1566; Richard Milne and Francis Holt were the other holders; see Fishwick, *Rochdale*, 85.

⁶¹ Hugh de Whitworth gave to Swain his son ½ oxgang in Tong, which was the fourth part of his lands there; *Whalley Coucher*, iii, 653. For the Scholfields of Tong End, see Fishwick, *Rochdale*, 522-3. In 1575 Francis Holt purchased from Alexander Scholfield and Emma his wife, eight messuages, lands, &c., in Whitworth and Spotland; Pal. of Lanc. Feet of F. bde. 37, m. 121.

⁶² Surv. ut sup. 233.

⁶³ *Whalley Coucher*, i, 153. The bounds of this pasture in the forest began at Gorsiches lache, went to Cowpe Head and by Cowpe to the Irwell, up the river to Fulebachope (Bacup) to Saltergate, Hamstals-clough, Denesgreve, and across the moss to Cumbe hope at Gorsiche Lache. The monks could place one hundred cows there

with their produce up to two years old. For the tenants in 1540, see *ibid.* iv, 1228.

⁶⁴ Surv. ut sup. 235.

⁶⁵ Alice and Aldusa in 1246 successfully claimed land in Chadwick as heirs of their father William de Raidwath; Assize R. 404, m. 8 d. Liulph de Reddewoth was a benefactor of Stanlaw; *Whalley Coucher*, iii, 785.

Alice widow of Robert son of Thomas de la Lee in Lent 1352 claimed a messuage and land in Spotland against John son of Maud, daughter of Cecily the Marshal's daughter; Duchy of Lanc. Assize R. 1, m. 4 d. The dispute was long-continued. The defendant called on William Emson de Ainsworth, Almarica his wife, Robert de Bromley, Margery his wife, John son of Roger de Clegg, and Alice his wife, to warrant him, the wives named being sisters and heirs of Robert de la Lee; *ibid.* R. 6, m. 3. See also Assize R. 441, m. 4, 4 d. James de Greenhalgh in 1422 acquired an estate in Spotland; *Final Conc.* iii, 81.

In 1576 Thomas Greenhalgh died holding a messuage and lands there of Francis Holt by a peppercorn rent; Duchy of Lanc. Inq. p.m. xii, no. 10. From a preceding note it will be seen that such a rent was, in 1331, paid by Henry del Stock for land in Whitworth.

Robert Holt of Carburton, Notts., was in 1529, in possession of messuages, mill, &c., in Spotland and Hundersfield; Geoffrey, his son and heir, sold all or most of the estate to Thomas Holt in 1539; Pal. of Lanc. Feet of F. bde. 11, m. 129, 27. Francis Holt in 1575 had to make good his title to lands in Dean Bank, and Greenbooths in Spotland, against the daughters and co-heirs of Geoffrey; Fishwick, *op. cit.* 377, quoting Duchy Plead. Eliz. lxiii, T. 7.

Henry Holt of Fieldhouse, in 1523, contributed to the subsidy for his lands; Fishwick, *Rochdale*, 37. He died in 1526.

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tnen copyhold land in each of the hamlets—over 2,400 acres in all.

The land-tax returns of 1788–96 show that the ownership was greatly subdivided.

Whitworth Chapel was built about 1529 by the inhabitants of the hamlet, and was intended to serve Wardle and Healey also.⁶⁶ In 1552 it was found to be scantily furnished,⁶⁷ and a century later the Parliamentary Commissioners recommended that it should be made a parish church.⁶⁸ The church was rebuilt in 1775^{68a} and again in 1850; it is called *ST. BARTHOLOMEW'S*.⁶⁹ The appointment of the curate was vested in four trustees, but there was no endowment. Bishop Gastrell, in 1717, found that the settled income was £6 6s. 8d.;⁷⁰ but in 1720 John Starky of Rochdale gave £200 on condition that the patronage should be vested in him,⁷¹ and some other gifts were secured, including £400 from Queen Anne's Bounty.⁷² The patronage is now vested in Keble College, Oxford. The following have been curates and vicars since the Restoration:—⁷³

- c. 1662 Thomas Dewhurst
- ? — Robert Smethurst
- 1677 Abraham Butterworth, B.A. (Emmanuel Coll. Camb.)
- 1680 Joseph Whitworth

holding five messuages, &c., in Spotland and Hundersfield, of Robert Holt by knight's service and a rent of 3s. 8d. Grace, his daughter and heir, was two years of age; Duchy of Lanc. Inq. p.m. vi, no. 10.

Sir Edmund Trafford in the time of Henry VIII held two messuages, &c., in Rochdale of Robert Holt of Stubble; Duchy of Lanc. Inq. p.m. vi, no. 20. They were in Spotland and were sold to Francis Holt in 1564; Pal. of Lanc. Feet of F. bdle. 26, m. 136.

William Strangeways and Eleanor his wife in 1564 sold four messuages, &c., in Spotland and Rochdale, to Robert Holt; ibid. bdle. 26, m. 242.

Richard Chadwick died in 1621 holding messuages and lands in Spotland and Hundersfield, also a messuage in Manchester, and leaving a son and heir Robert, twenty years of age. The lands were chiefly held of Sir John Byron, but a small part in Spotland was held of John Holt of Stubble; *Lancs. Inq. p.m.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), ii, 273. This family was of Spotland Gate; see *Manch. Ct. Lett Rec.* ii, 195 n.

Ottiwel Greave in 1569 purchased a messuage in Spotland from John son and heir of Thomas Belfield; Pal. of Lanc. Feet of F. bdle. 31, m. 177. Edmund Greave in 1608 died seised of messuages and lands in Spotland held of Theophilus Ashton of Clegg by a rent of 4d. Ottiwel his son was forty-one years of age; *Lancs. Inq. p.m.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), i, 126. This estate is called Fernhill; Fishwick, op. cit. 504.

One of the Linney family is believed to have lived at the 'Great House' in Rochdale, close to which ran the brook called Lothburn; Fishwick, op. cit. 523–5. Richard Linney died in 1619 holding lands in Hundersfield and Spotland of the king, as of the dissolved Hospital of St. John, by two rents of 6d. each; also cottages in Rochdale and an acre in Coprod, this last being held of the king by knight's service; Edmund, his son and heir, was nine years old; *Lancs. Inq. p.m.* (Rec. Soc.),

ii, 113; iii, 368. Edmund Linney died 25 Oct. 1636, holding much the same lands, and leaving a widow Ellen, and a son and heir Richard, only three years old; Towneley MS. C, 8, 13 (Chet. Lib.), p. 748.

The Smallshaw is named in the *Wballey Coucher*, iii, 761. It was owned by the Crossleys in the 17th century; Fishwick, op. cit. 508. James Crossley died in 1623 holding two messuages and lands in Spotland of Robert Holt of Stubble by the 200th part of a knight's fee; James, his son and heir, was four years old; Towneley MS. C, 8, 13, p. 241–2.

⁶⁶ The foundation deed (1532) is printed in Fishwick, *Rochdale*, 164–7. It states that Robert Holt of Stubble and the freeholders gave 50 'fall' of land, and that a number of the people built it; the priest's wages were to be collected by the chapel reeves, who, like the priest, were to be appointed by four trustees. The king (probably as lord of Rochdale) might prohibit service there if he judged it advisable, on account of the poverty of the place. It was confiscated with other chapels in 1548 and bought back from the Crown by the people; Raines, *Cbant.* (Chet. Soc.), ii, 277. In 1626 the chapel and chapel yard occupied 25 perches; Surv. ut sup. 232.

⁶⁷ *Cb. Gds.* (Chet. Soc.), 49. John Yate was the priest; he was still there in 1563 and 1565 (Visitation Lists), being, however, 'decrepit.' His will was proved in 1574; ibid. 52. During the latter part of Elizabeth's reign the chapel seems to have been served by a licensed 'reader,' the vicar of Rochdale or his curate perhaps officiating from time to time; see Fishwick, op. cit. 171. About 1610 it is mentioned as a chapel of ease supported by the inhabitants; *Hist. MSS. Com. Rep.* xiv, App. iv, 12. The curates had probably other charges; see the list in Fishwick, op. cit. 171, 172.

⁶⁸ *Commonw. Ch. Surv.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), 20. James Stevenson was minister in 1641 and till his death in 1649; he was succeeded by George Stott,

- c. 1699 James Whitehead, M.A.⁷⁴ (St. Mary Hall, Oxf.)
- oc. 1717 Jonathan Hanson⁷⁵
- 1723 Edmund Holme, M.A. (Brasenose Coll. Oxf.)
- 1778 William Currer, M.A.⁷⁶ (St. John's Coll. Camb.)
- 1804 Hugh Hornby, M.A.⁷⁷ (Christ's Coll. Camb.)
- 1829 George Heron, B.A. (Brasenose Coll. Oxf.)
- 1830 Richard Parkinson, B.D.⁷⁸ (St. John's Coll. Camb.)
- 1841 Isaac Gaitskell, M.A. (Trin. Coll. Camb.)
- 1877 Edwin Brierley
- 1901 James Ralph Scholfield, M.A. (St. John's Coll. Camb.)

An endowment for a 'Protestant schoolmaster' was given in 1724.⁷⁹

In more recent times a number of places of worship have been erected in the township. For the Church of England there are St. Paul's, Norden, 1861;⁸⁰ St. Saviour's, Bacup, 1865;⁸¹ and St. John the Evangelist's, Facit, 1871.⁸² The patronage of St. Saviour's is vested in the Church Association; of the others in the Bishop of Manchester.

There are Primitive Methodist, Free Methodist, and Congregational churches at Whitworth,⁸³ and a Salvation Army barracks.

who did not approve of the Presbyterian government, and left; see W. A. Shaw, *Bury Classis* (Chet. Soc.), 256, 257. John Bullock, a husbandman of Bolton, appears in 1657–8; ibid. 221.

^{68a} A brief ordering collections for the rebuilding was granted in 1772.

⁶⁹ Fishwick, op. cit. 167.

⁷⁰ *Notitia Cestr.* (Chet. Soc.), ii, 154. Of this income £5 was the interest on £100 given by James Wolfenden of Hades in Wardle on condition that the curate should be M.A. or B.A.

⁷¹ Ibid. ii, 157. For the Starky family see the account of Tonge in Prestwich. On the death of James Starky in 1846 the patronage became vested in his kinsmen, Joseph Langton and the Rev. William Hornby. In 1889 the patron was L. Brierley.

⁷² Fishwick, op. cit. 169.

⁷³ This list is derived mainly from the work just quoted pp. 172–6, where full accounts of the curates, &c., will be found. The benefice has ranked as a vicarage since 1866, when the Rochdale Vicarage Act was passed.

⁷⁴ This curate was appointed by the vicar of Rochdale, but the 'four men' vindicated their right; see the case stated in *Notitia Cestr.* ii, 154–6 n. He was afterwards rector of North Meols.

⁷⁵ The church papers at Chester Dioc. Reg. begin with this curate.

⁷⁶ Also vicar of Clapham, Yorkshire.

⁷⁷ Also vicar of St. Michael's on Wyre.

⁷⁸ Afterwards fellow of Manchester.

⁷⁹ Gastrell, *Notitia*, ii, 157; *End. Chas. Rep.* (1904), 16.

⁸⁰ *Lond. Gaz.* 10 June 1862.

⁸¹ Ibid. 6 Feb. 1866.

⁸² For district, see *Lond. Gaz.* 5 Nov. 1867.

⁸³ Nonconformity existed in the 17th century; the chapel at Hallfold, erected in 1720, was replaced by the present building in 1850. The fluctuating history of the congregation is told in Nightingale, *Lancs. Nonconf.* iii, 269–79.

There are also Wesleyan churches at Bagslate and Cheesden, and a Free Methodist one at the former place.

At Whitworth is the Roman Catholic church of Our Immaculate Mother and St. Anselm, 1869;⁸⁴ and at Norden are the church of St. Mary, 1904, with a house of Redemptorist fathers, and a poor law school for boys, conducted by the Brothers of Charity.

BUTTERWORTH

Butterworth, Buttersworth, 1278; Boterwrth, 1292.

Cleg, 1284.

Okeden, 1276; Akeden, 1292.

This township, which contains the chapelry of Milnrow, occupies the south-east part of the parish, and has an area of 7,765½ acres. The surface is comparatively level in the west and south, but on the eastern border rises steeply, a height of nearly 1,500 feet being reached. The following are the former hamlets or subdivisions:—Butterworth Hall, 738½ acres; Belfield, 458; Clegg, 1,677; Low House, 1,278; Wildhouse, 264; Haugh, 599; Bleakedgate with Roughbank, 2,751.

The township has long been divided into two sections, the Freehold side and the Lordship side.¹ These 'sides' refer to the ancient terms of tenure, some freehold, some of the lord of the manor by various rents and services. The tenements of each class are scattered all over the township, and the existing classification became fixed before 1600, the various holdings being judged to belong to freehold or lordship side in accordance therewith, though all the holdings have long ago been enfranchised. The classification is still maintained by tradition, because each 'side' has been accustomed to have a constable in the Rochdale manor court.^{1a}

The principal road is that going south-east and east from Rochdale through Milnrow to Huddersfield. From Milnrow a road goes north to join the Rochdale-Todmorden road. The Lancashire and Yorkshire Company's railway from Rochdale to Todmorden

passes through Belfield, and the canal between the same places goes along by the line; the same company's line from Rochdale to Oldham has stations at Milnrow and New Hey.

A 'disorderly custom' called the Rushbearing used to take place on the Saturday before St. James's Day.² The rushcarts finally disappeared about ten years ago, but the annual fair or holiday is still called the Rushbearing, and is kept at various dates in the autumn at Milnrow and other places in the Rochdale district.

Formerly Chapel Croft used to be mowed after the other fields, the superstition being that if it were mown without rain falling, none of the hay from the meadows would be got in dry.³

Hollinworth Lake is a large artificial reservoir formed to supply the Rochdale Canal; it is a favourite resort of pleasure parties.

The soil is light gravel and clay, with subsoil of rough gravel. The land is chiefly in pasture.

A local board was constituted at Milnrow in 1870;⁴ it became an urban district council in 1894, and the district was formed into an independent township; there are three wards—Belfield, Milnrow, and Haugh, each with six members.

Butterworth, or the part of it held by **MANOR** Hugh de Eland about 1190, was given by him to Gilbert de Notton, son and heir of Gilbert de Notton, in marriage with his daughter Margery;⁵ they had issue a son Roger, a benefactor of Monk Bretton. Margery afterwards married Sir Baldwin Tyas, or *Teutonicus*, by whom she had a daughter Joan, married first to Sir Robert de Hoyland of High Hoyland, in Yorkshire, and afterwards to Sir John de Byron.⁶ The estate of the Elands and their heirs, the Saviles, with numerous additions,⁷ was known as the manor of **BUTTERWORTH**, and descended like Clayton in Droylsden till the beginning of the 17th century, when the whole was sold to a large number of purchasers, mostly the occupying tenants.⁸ Sir John Byron, who died in 1489, was found to have held twelve messuages, 200 acres of land, 10 acres of wood, &c., in Butterworth, of Sir John Savile, by services un-

⁸⁴ Mass was said on Sundays for some years before 1860, and a wooden chapel was built in 1862; Kelly, *Engl. Cath. Missions*, 432.

¹ Gastrell, *Notitia* (Chet. Soc.), ii, 141.

^{1a} Information of Lt.-Col. H. Fishwick.

² Gastrell, *op. cit.* ii, 142. The ancient custom was not originally 'disorderly.'

³ Fishwick, *Rochdale*, 534.

⁴ *Lond. Gaz.* 4 Feb. 1870. The district was extended in 1879 by 42 & 43 Vict. cap. 86.

⁵ For the Eland-Tyas-Byron descent, see *Yorks. Arch. Journ.* vii, 131, 132.

⁶ A large number of Butterworth deeds are contained in the Byron Chartulary ('Black Book of Clayton'). From these it appears that Sir Baldwin gave to Robert de Hoyland, who had married Joan his daughter, all his land in Butterworth, Clegg, Gartside, Ogden, the two Hollinworths, &c., with the mill and demesne, also the homages and services, except that of John de Lacy; no. 71/152. There are some other grants by Sir Baldwin, e.g. to Henry the Smith, 6 acres bounded partly by the Beal and Ogden Brook; *ibid.* no. 29/73; and 2 acres of meadow in the south side of Buckley Carr to Robert

de Butterworth, at a rent of 8d.; *ibid.* no. 69/150.

Robert de Hoyland granted to Thomas son of Adam de Birghou an oxgang which John de Haworth had held of Sir Baldwin le Tyas and Margery his wife at a rent of 2s.; *ibid.* no. 70/151. Joan de Hoyland in her widowhood gave to William de Rushworth parcels called Moterode, Crookedrode, and Horsefalinge, at a rent of 3d.; *ibid.* no. 72/153.

John de Byron and Joan his wife were plaintiffs in 1278, claiming lands against Philip, Abbot of Roche; Assize R. 1238, m. 51; R. 1259, m. 39. This was probably a dispute as to the boundary between Butterworth and Saddleworth.

Hugh de Eland in 1292 released to Sir John de Byron and Joan his wife and the heirs of Sir John, all his right in lands &c., in the vill of Butterworth, excepting the lordship of the vill, 22s. yearly rent, and the homage and service of Richard son of Gilbert de Butterworth for 2 oxgangs of land; Byron Chartul. no. 8/154.

John de Eland (as son of Hugh son of John son of Hugh) claimed the manor of Butterworth in 1335 against Richard de Byron; De Banco R. 301, m. 152 d.

In 1321 Agnes, widow of John de Byron and then wife of John de Strickland, claimed dower in a messuage, oxgang of land, water-mill, &c.; De Banco R. 240, m. 192.

A mill then existed on the Beal. Henry son of Richard de Butterworth and Richard his brother, released to Sir Baldwin le Tyas all their right in the mill opposite the house of Andrew Brun; for which Sir Baldwin gave them a hawk; Byron Chartul. no. 82/219. The same Henry afterwards released to Joan de Hoyland and her heirs all his right in the mill and pool; *ibid.* no. 83/220.

The *De Lacy Compotus* of 1296 (Chet. Soc. 6) shows that John de Byron had formerly held lands rendering 42s. 9½d., and that he still held some directly of the Earl of Lincoln by a rent of 2s. In the *Inquest* of 1311 (Chet. Soc. 20) the latter tenement is described as 6 acres in Butterworth.

⁷ The Byron Chartulary shows a number of acquisitions from the smaller holders; some of them are recorded in these notes. Butterworth was included in a Byron settlement in 1432-41; *Final Conc.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), iii, 98, 104, 106.

⁸ A number of the deeds will be found in Raines MSS. (Chet. Lib.), vi, fol. 1-93.

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known; also parcels in Ogden.⁹ It appears that the Byrons held land also of the Hospitallers, who owned a great part of the township,¹⁰ for in the rental it is stated that a later Sir John Byron, about 1540, paid 18*d.* for Butterworth.¹¹ The hall, which existed in 1420,¹² was built upon the Hospitallers' land.¹³

A number of families used the local surname.¹⁴ In the central hamlet, known as Butterworth Hall, are situated Milnrow with the chapel, and the residences called Lady House,¹⁵ Holt,¹⁶ and Gartside,¹⁷ all of which tenements possess some historical interest.

⁹ Duchy of Lanc. Inq. p.m. iii, no. 48; the clear annual value was 40 marks. A century earlier the Byrons' estate in Butterworth was stated to be held of the Duke of Lancaster by knight's service; *Lancs. Inq. p.m.* (Chet. Soc.), i, 65.

The heir of Francis Pulteney in 1545-7 claimed lands in Royton, Ogden, Haugh, and Butterworth, against Sir John Byron; *Ducatus Lanc.* (Rec. Com.), ii, 105. Sir John Byron in 1558 recovered the manor from Michael Pulteney; *Pal. of Lanc. Feet of F. bdle.* 20, m. 7.

¹⁰ See *Plac. de Quo Warr.* (Rec. Com.), 375; *De Banco R.* 279, m. 180*d.*

¹¹ Kuerden MSS. v, fol. 84.

¹² Licence for oratories at Clayton and Butterworth was granted to Sir John Byron on 4 Feb. 1420-1; *Lich. Epis. Reg.* ix, fol. 3*b.*

¹³ 'Butterworth Hall' has long been the name of one of the hamlets, and the actual site of the ancient hall appears to be unknown, but Col. Fishwick judges that the house owned by the Mayall family and their successors had the best title to the name; *Rochdale*, 339. Robert Mayall, who died in 1622, held lands in Butterworth and Buersill of William, Earl of Derby, as of his manor of Woolton, as parcel of the late Hospital of St. John of Jerusalem, in socage by 2*d.* rent. James Mayall, the son and heir, was over eleven years of age; *Lancs. Inq. p.m.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), iii, 370. For the later history see Fishwick, loc. cit.

¹⁴ The Byron Chartulary contains many names of Butterworths; some have been given in preceding notes, and in addition the following may be cited: John son of Andrew de Brune granted Richard son of Robert de Butterworth half an oxgang of land in Butterworth, purchased from Henry his brother, at 6*d.* rent; *ibid.* no. 14/77. Ellis son of Andrew de Brune gave Sir John de Byron and Joan his wife half an oxgang; *ibid.* no. 54/224. Maud, daughter of Robert son of Alexander de Butterworth, granted an oxgang and a half of her father's land to Robert son of Thomas the Clerk, at a rent of 18*d.*; *ibid.* no. 34/80. Geoffrey son of Award de Butterworth granted to his lord, Sir John de Byron, and Joan his wife, an oxgang held of Sir John, together with all the lands and rents held of him in the vill; *ibid.* no. 41/85. Richard son of Roger de Butterworth gave the service of Henry son of Robert de Butterworth for an oxgang of land in Butterworth to Sir John de Byron; *ibid.* no. 70/181.

Geoffrey, son of Thomas son of Henry de Butterworth, about 1260-70, granted to Sir John de Byron and Joan his wife and their heirs all his inheritance in Butterworth, as well as the lands he had held of Sir John, with homages, escheats, wards and reliefs, liberties, &c., at a rent of a ginger-root yearly; *ibid.* no. 55/225. This charter was alleged by the tenants of Butterworth at the survey of 1626; *Raines MSS.* (Chet. Lib.), xxi, 54.

From Hugh de Eland's charter quoted above, it appears that Richard son of Gilbert de Butterworth held of him 2 oxgangs. This Richard granted to Sir John de Byron all his land between Bradley Brook and the ditch of Geoffrey de Turnagh,

and the Hulls and the field of Ralph del Rode, with a house on the Hulls and all the bylandings on that side; *Byron Chartul.* no. 40/82.

In 3 Edw. (? II) Richard son of Gilbert de Butterworth granted all his lands to his son William, with remainders to younger sons, Thomas and Adam; *Towneley MS. GG.* no. 681. The tenants' names and services are given; one of them was Richard's son Henry, who held Belgrene by a rent of 6*d.*; see also *Final Conc.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), ii, 5.

The name Belgrene occurs later in the account of Milnrow Chapel. By an early deed John son of Hugh de Eland gave to Reynold son of Henry Brown an oxgang called Belgrene, at the ancient rent of 2*s.*; and afterwards gave him 2 oxgangs which his uncle William had held; *Towneley MS. GG.* no. 639, 662.

¹⁵ It was formerly the residence of the Milne family; see Fishwick, op. cit. 379.

James Milne died in 1623 holding a messuage and lands in Butterworth of the heir of Geoffrey son of Thomas de Butterworth, rendering a root of ginger yearly; he also held land in Buersill of the Earl of Derby as of his manor of Woolton. James, his son and heir, was thirty-six years of age; *Towneley MS. C.* 8, 13 (Chet. Lib.), p. 858.

¹⁶ It lies on the east of Milnrow, and is supposed to have given a surname to the Holt family, long the principal residents in the parish. The above-cited deeds about Belgrene may refer to it.

Richard Butterworth of the Holt (dead in 1521) was a son of Edward, the benefactor of Milnrow Chapel; *Towneley MS. GG.* no. 645. Robert Butterworth (son of Richard) of the Holt in 1530, agreed that his son Thomas should marry Jane daughter of James Shepard, of Chesham; *ibid.* no. 717.

A Robert Butterworth in 1545 held a close called Gyll Cross in Butterworth in right of his wife Elizabeth; *Pal. of Lanc. Writs of Assize*, bdle. 22 (Aug. 37 Hen. VIII).

Thomas Butterworth of the Holt in 1550 gave to Lawrence Hopwood land called Inghram, in exchange; *Towneley MS. GG.* no. 719. Thomas died in 1559, having made a settlement of the Holt; *ibid.* no. 696, 718.

The inquisition shows that Thomas son of Robert Butterworth, held ten messuages, &c., in Butterworth, Milnrow, Moorhouse, Wardle, and Spotland; his heir being his sister Elizabeth, wife of Thomas Simon, and forty years of age. The premises in Butterworth and Milnrow were held of the heirs of Hugh de Eland by a rent of 2*s.*; those in Moorhouse of the heir of Henry de Clayton by a rent of 17*d.*; the rest, of the heir of Thomas Buckley, a rent of 14*d.* being paid for Wardle; *Duchy of Lanc. Inq. p.m.* xi, no. 56.

Thomas Simon, of Highton in Essex, and Elizabeth his wife became bound to Ewan Butterworth of Chesham in 1559; *Towneley MS. GG.* no. 582; and Adam (? Ewan) Butterworth of Chesham became bound to Cuthbert Scholefield to secure the latter's title to Holt; *ibid.* no. 591. Ewan and Cuthbert were dividing

the estate; *ibid.* no. 724. Jane Butterworth, the widow of Thomas, afterwards married Nicholas Grimshaw, and retained possession of the Holt until 1594, though many disputes had arisen with Cuthbert Scholefield; *ibid.* no. 733, and Fishwick, op. cit. 377, &c.

¹⁷ Gartside appears to have been originally in Crompton and to have become attached to Rochdale by its grant to Stanlaw Abbey by Gilbert de Barton. It lay on the west of Aspiwall syke, and its bounds had been agreed upon by Baldwin le Tyas and the said Gilbert; free approach was allowed between the ditch of Crompton and land held of the Hospitallers by William, then vicar of Rochdale. Adam de Windhill was tenant for a time; *Whalley Coucher* (Chet. Soc.), i, 163-5.

The place gave a surname to one or more families, who no doubt sprang from the occupying tenants; thus about 1540 James Gartside was the monks' bailiff for their Rochdale estate; *ibid.* iv, 1232. There are various scattered notices of the Gartside; thus William de Milnhouses released to William son of Edusa de Gartside the rent of 2*d.* and four barbed arrows due to him at Martinmas; *ibid.* ii, 618. John de Byron granted to Richard son of Robert de Gartside land in Butterworth; *Byron Chartul.* no. 77/180.

The Hospitallers had an estate in Gartside. Alexander son of Robert de Spotland gave to Andrew son of William del Okencliff all his lands, &c., in Gartside on the north of the Outlane, held of the Hospital of Jerusalem; a rent of 12*d.* was payable and at death $\frac{1}{2}$ mark in lieu of the third part of the tenant's goods; *ibid.* no. 80/210. Eugenia daughter of Robert de Belfield, and Lugerina widow of Geoffrey de Gartside, gave land and dower right in Gartside to William de Cliff, and in 1284 Thomas le Wyld released to William son of Richard del Cliff—probably the same William—6*d.* rent due from lands in Gartside, formerly Andrew de Gartside's; *ibid.* no. 81/211, 86/236, 3/78. To the last-quoted charter Richard and Henry de Gartside were witnesses. Eugenia seems also to be described as widow of Richard son of Edusa de Gartside; *ibid.* no. 75/212.

Adam son of William de Gartside in 1351 released to Robert son of William de Crompton his right to lands inherited from his father, together with an eighth part of the estate of Buersill Moor acquired from John de Balderstone. John Faghell, who occupied a messuage, &c., gave up his tenement; *ibid.* no. 26/101, 25/100.

The Whalley portion was sold by Henry VIII to John Braddyll of Whalley (Pat. 37 Hen. VIII, pt. 4), who conveyed Gartside Hey, alleged to be parcel of the same, to Roger Gartside, on which some hot disputes arose; see Fishwick, *Rochdale*, 381, quoting *Duchy of Lanc. Plead.* 38 Hen. VIII, xiv, G, 9; 1 Edw. VI, i, G, 1. James son of Hugh Gartside in 1545 sold Gartside Hall to Sir John Byron; *ibid.*; *Pal. of Lanc. Feet of F. bdle.* 12, m. 208, 344. This was probably the Hospitallers' portion; it is not named separately in the rental preserved by Kuerden. This estate of 101 acres was in 1626 held by eight freeholders; Survey in *Raines*

BELFIELD, held in part of the Hospitallers,¹⁸ gave its name to the family owning it; but little is known of them,¹⁹ a branch of the Butterworths having possession from the 16th century onwards. Robert Butterworth died in December 1557 holding Belfield Hall with various messuages and lands in Butterworth, partly of the Belfields and partly of others; also messuages and lands in Castleton, Hundersfield, and Oldham.²⁰ Edward, his next of kin and heir, being a nephew, succeeded, and died in 1570, when Alexander, his son and heir, was about six years of age.²¹ Alexander died in 1623, leaving a son Edward,²² who in 1626 held Belfield Hall and 240 acres of land, as well as lands elsewhere.²³ Edward Butterworth was a Presbyterian, and became a member of the Bury classis on its formation in 1646;²⁴ a younger brother, Alexander, joined the king's forces, and compounded for his estate in 1650.²⁵ Another brother, Jonathan, left a son Alexander,²⁶ who in 1665 succeeded his uncles Edward and Alexander in the estate, and died in 1728, having parted with it to his steward, Richard Townley, a Rochdale mercer.²⁷ The new owner, who was high sheriff in 1752,²⁸ was followed by his son and grandson; but Belfield was in 1851 sold to Robert Nuttall of Kempsey, whose grandson, Captain Clement R. N. Beswicke-Royds, of Pike House, Littleborough, still owns it.

BELFIELD HALL is a quadrangular building standing on an elevated site. The principal front, which was rebuilt in brick in 1752, faces south. On the west side the ground falls abruptly towards a small stream called the Stannybrook, and the position of the hall, as seen from the south-west, is very striking. The Lancashire and Yorkshire Railway passes close to



BUTTERWORTH of Belfield. *Argent a lion couchant azure between four coronets gules.*

it on the north. The hall is now nearly wholly dismantled, and is fast falling into decay. Two portions of the building—at the north-east corner, and on the west side of the quadrangle—are occupied as cottages, and these are the only parts of the old house at present in a state of repair, the outer walls having been largely rebuilt, and modern windows inserted. The rest of the house, including the 18th-century south wing, is little better than a ruin. The doors are open for anyone to enter, the windows are smashed, the floors broken, and the roofs do not keep out the rain. The whole presents a picture of desolation, all the more to be regretted because a little timely repair would have preserved the building for many years to come. Less than twenty years ago the house presented an ordered appearance, which is now difficult to recall.

The building is of stone and of two stories. The walls are constructed with thin rough coursed stones with long quoins on the angles, and the roofs are 'covered' with grey stone slates. The entrance to the quadrangle is through a gateway 8 ft. wide on the east side. From this, under the archway, doors open to rooms on either side; that on the south is said to have been the Justices' Room, or Court House, and over the door were formerly the arms of Butterworth. To the north was a large room with a fireplace on the west side, opening to the principal room of the north wing. This was lit on the south side by a long stone-mullioned bay window of no less than sixteen lights. The kitchens were probably on the west side. The 18th-century south wing seems to have taken the place of an older wing. A sundial plate formerly at Belfield^{29a} bears the date 1619, and it is possible that the Hall as now existing is of much the same period. The west side has been much altered in more recent times, and may even have been entirely rebuilt before the coming of the Townleys in 1728. The quadrangle measures about 46 ft. across from east to west, and

MSS. xxi, 51.^b The hall afterwards became the property of William Greaves, who rebuilt it in 1697; later of the Townleys of Belfield, and then of Mr. E. A. N. Royds; see Fishwick, op. cit. 382.

¹⁸ Kuerden MSS. v, fol. 84. 'Robert Butterworth, for Belfield, 6d.' This is not named in the Inq. p.m.

¹⁹ Alexander de Belfield in 1288 sold land in Ogden to Sir John de Byron and Joan his wife; Byron Chartul. no. 7/48. Adam de Belfield was a witness in 1344; *ibid.* no. 15/187. Henry de Belfield occurs frequently in the Scholefield D. about 1300, together with his brothers Nicholas and Adam. Some other scattered notices will be found in Fishwick, op. cit. 339-42.

In 1310 Henry de Butterworth obtained from Alexander de Belfield two messuages and lands in Butterworth; *Final Conc.* ii, 3.

Ralph de Belfield in 1415 alleged that Sir John de Ashton and others had disseised him of messuages, lands, and rents in Butterworth; Coram Rege R. East. 3 Hen. V, m. 73. This may, however, refer to the Belfields of Clegg.

²⁰ Duchy of Lanc. Inq. p.m. x, no. 14. The tenures were various. Part of the estate of Butterworth was held of Sir John Byron in socage by a rent of 2s. 3d.; another part of Cuthbert Scholefield, by a rent of 14d.; another of the heirs of Ralph Bel-

field, by a rent of 12d.; another of Thomas Belfield, by a rent of 2s.; others of Sir Henry Savile and Robert Holt of Stubley, by a rent of 7d.; another of the said Robert Holt, by a rent of 14d. A messuage, &c., in Castleton was held of Arthur Ashton and Bertin Scholefield by a rent of 3d. Six messuages, a water-mill, &c., in Hundersfield were held of Sir Henry Savile by a rent of 21d., and of Robert Holt by a rent of 6d. A messuage in Oldham was held jointly of Sir John Byron, Thomas Belfield, and Cuthbert Scholefield. Deceased had made a settlement in 1547, providing for his wife Joan. The heir was Edward Butterworth, forty-four years of age.

²¹ Duchy of Lanc. Inq. p.m. xiii, no. 2, 14. Edward's will is recited as well as a recovery of 1568; to Jane his wife and daughter of Richard Holt he left Belfield Hall, but a third part only if she married again. Several changes appear in the tenures: The Little Quicks in Butterworth was held of the queen as of her manor of Rochdale in socage by 2d. rent; other land in Butterworth of Elizabeth Belfield, William Ashton, and Anne his wife, in right of Elizabeth and Anne, daughters and heirs of Ralph Belfield, by a rent of 12d.; the rent payable to Thomas Belfield is given as 6d. only; Robert Savile and Charles Holt of Stubley have taken the place of the lords in 1557; Charles Holt

instead of Sir John Byron had the rent of 2s. 3d. for the Kaleyards (Callyardes); Henry Scholefield is named instead of Bertin; and Robert Barton held the messuage, &c., in Oldham. The lands in Hundersfield were those known as the Starring and the Hades.

²² *Lancs. Inq. p.m.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), iii, 378. There are several fresh variations in the tenures. A pedigree was recorded in 1613; *Visit.* (Chet. Soc.), 12.

²³ Survey in Raines, xxi, 34; he held 'by grant of his great-uncle Robert Butterworth.'

²⁴ Baines, *Lancs.* (ed. 1868), i, 227.

²⁵ He took part in the defence of Lathom House at its second siege in 1645. His only property was a nag, besides wearing apparel worth £20; *Royalist Composition Papers* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), i, 264-6.

²⁶ See the pedigree recorded in 1665; Dugdale, *Visit.* (Chet. Soc.), 65, when Alexander, the heir, was twenty-four years of age. He was sheriff in 1675; P.R.O. *List*, 73.

²⁷ The later part of the story is taken from Fishwick's *Rochdale*, 344-7, where a pedigree of the Butterworths will be found.

²⁸ P.R.O. *List*, 74.

^{29a} Now in possession of Lt.-Col. Fishwick, The Heights, Rochdale.

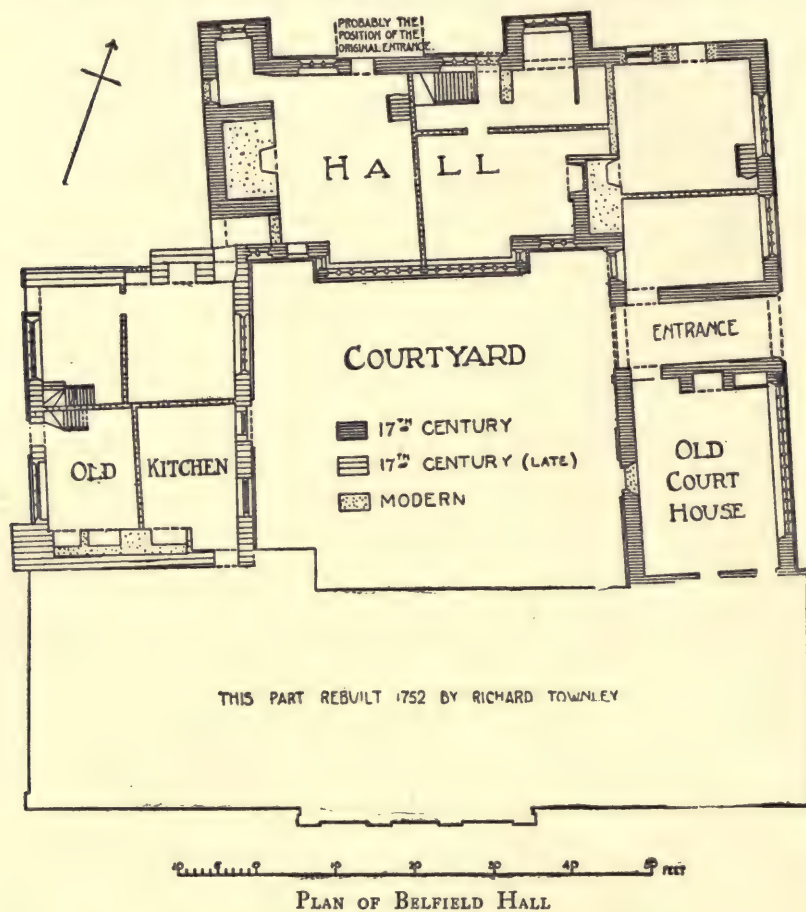
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42 ft. from north to south. It is now overgrown with grass, though the cobble pavement was in good condition till a quite recent date (i.e. in 1889). The principal room on the north side of the quadrangle is about 38 ft. in length, and 24 ft. in breadth, and has a flat ceiling. There is a large inglenook 10 ft. wide at the west end, now built up. Until recently the room was occupied as cottages, and the wall dividing it into two still remains. The whole of the courtyard side of the room is taken up by the sixteen-light window before mentioned, with a smaller window on each side, one single light in each return. The bay is 23 ft. in length inside, and is carried up with a projection of 2 ft. 6 in. to the first floor, where a similar window lights the room above.

the left of the gateway and two similar windows each of five lights to the right. Above, on the first floor, are five windows of five lights each and one with two. All the windows in the old part of the house, with the exception of those to the great bay on the south side and four in the west wing, have transoms are of the same type, and the lack of variety in detail makes the building just miss that note of distinction which otherwise it might have possessed. There is a continuous moulded string-course at the height of the ground-floor window-heads which is continued round the entrance archway on the east side, and the upper windows on the outer elevation have hood-moulds. The two great sixteen-light transomed windows to the courtyard, one

over the other, separated by a plain wall-space, together with the gable on the west side, make the inner elevations far more picturesque than those on the outside of the house—a picturesqueness, however, the full effect of which is lost by the otherwise straight and unbroken lines of the eaves and roofs.

The northern elevation now facing the railway is broken up by the two small projecting bays, which go up both stories and finish with stone gables. This front seems to have been much patched and altered. The end gable and wall below to the east, as has before been stated, has been entirely refaced in modern times, and the two doorways which now give entrance to the chief apartments are modern insertions. On the other hand it appears that a projecting bay 11 ft. in width formerly existed in the centre of the wall on this side, as shown by the break in the



PLAN OF BELFIELD HALL

On the other side are two smaller bays facing north, one of them awkwardly contrived behind the projection of the inglenook. These seem to be later additions or afterthoughts to the original design, and built with more regard to outside than inside appearance. The staircase is said to have been in the north-east angle of the house, though there are now no traces of it. In the west wing, supposed to have contained the kitchen, is a fireplace opening 17 ft. wide, since built up, and two modern grates inserted, the room having previously been divided into two.

The exterior elevations of Belfield Hall are chiefly distinguished by the long low stone windows without transoms, which give the building a rather squat and monotonous appearance. The entrance front to the east has a thirteen-light window of this description to

plinth. The south side of the quadrangle is occupied by the back of the 18th-century building erected by Col. Townley which rises a full story above the lines of the eaves of the old roofs, and consequently overshadows the courtyard on the side where the light could be least spared. No attempt has been made to harmonize the new work with the old except that the wall has on this side been faced with stone—probably the old materials used up—and the south side of the quadrangle is properly a back elevation. In later times an enormous buttress has been introduced to strengthen the wall, further destroying the picturesqueness of the courtyard.

The new south front erected by Col. Townley in 1752 is a classic composition of two stories in brick and stone possessing a certain dignity and stateliness, but rather coarse in detail. It is about 100 ft.



BUTTERWORTH : BELFIELD HALL

in length. The centre portion has Doric pilasters, a heavy cornice and panelled attic of stone, and is flanked by slightly recessed wings with four windows on each floor, the end windows on each side being much too near the angles of the building. The whole of this portion of the house is practically gutted, and is in a dangerous condition.

WILD HOUSE was about 1540 held of the Hospitallers by Nicholas Butterworth, who paid a quit-rent of 6*d.*²⁹ It passed by marriage to the Hamers, and after several sales became the property of the Fentons.³⁰ Birchinley is another old estate, which has also come into the Fentons' possession.³¹

LOW HOUSE was also held of the Hospitallers by a rent of 18*d.*; the tenant about 1540 was Robert Butterworth.³² In 1626 it was held by John Butterworth, together with the adjoining Crow Nest estate, paying various rents to the chief lords.³³ It afterwards descended to the Chadwicks of Roughbank.³⁴

FLASH HOUSE, also part of the Hospitallers' estate, was long held by the Chethams of Nuthurst.³⁵

²⁹ Kuerden MSS. v, fol. 84. The place may have taken its name from the Wyld family, one or two of whom have been named in preceding notes.

Thomas le Wild of Butterworth gave all his title in the vill to Thomas his son; this included an oxgang granted by John de Byron, and land held of Henry de Lacy by a rent of 2*s.* 6*d.*; Towneley MS. GG, no. 603.

By an inquisition made in 1496 it was found that Henry Butterworth had died seized of four messuages, 60 acres of land, &c., in Butterworth and Hundersfield, held of the king as of his duchy by a rent of 15*d.*, and of the clear value of 26*s.* 8*d.* Ralph, his son and heir, was five years old; *Duchy Plead.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), i, 9, 10.

From a deed of 1308-9 quoted in the survey of 1626, when Ralph Butterworth was tenant, it appears that a rent of 15*d.* was then paid to Henry de Lacy. In the survey the 15*d.* was stated to be paid to the king, while another rent of 15*d.* was paid to the Saviles for the Hospitallers, though in a deed of 1609 relating to the mansion-house and lands a rent of 18*d.* is said to be due to St. John's Hospital; Raines MSS. xxi, 41.

³⁰ Fishwick, op. cit. 372.

³¹ Ibid., 368-70. Robert Butterworth of Birchinley died in 1609 holding messuages and lands in Hundersfield, Butterworth, and Oldham; those in Hundersfield being held of the king as of the dissolved priory of St. John of Jerusalem by a rent of 12*d.*; and those in Butterworth of Sir John Byron by the 200th part of a knight's fee and 20*d.* rent. The heirs were his sisters and their sons; *Lancs. Inq. p.m.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), i, 142-4.

³² Kuerden MSS. v, fol. 84.

³³ Survey in Raines MSS. xxi, 43. For Low House, with 55 acres, the St. John's rent was 18*d.*, as in the rental; for Crow Nest, with 92 acres, 6*d.* was due to the Saviles, 12*d.* to Robert Holt, and 12*d.* to St. John's. John Butterworth died 13 March 1626-7, holding Low House, &c., as of the suppressed Hospital; the heir was his grandson John (son of Ralph son of John), aged twenty-seven and more; Towneley MS. C, 8, 13 (Chet. Lib.), 56.

³⁴ For the later history see Fishwick, *Rochdale*, 374-5.

³⁵ Thomas de Chetham, who died in 1383, held it; Towneley MS. DD, no. 1463. In 1470 James Chetham leased it to Elinor Wardle for twenty years, at the rent of 27*s.*, with boons of four days' 'shearing' in harvest and four hens at Yule; Clowes D. no. 5. James Chetham about 1540 paid a rent of 18*d.* for the estate; Kuerden MSS. v, fol. 84. This service is not usually stated in the Chetham inquisitions, though Flash House is mentioned. The 1626 survey describes the estate as 99 acres; Raines MSS. xxi, 43.

In 1659 the trustees of Thomas Chetham of Nuthurst sold it to Edward Chetham to raise money for the portions of Thomas's daughters; Clowes D. no. 12. It seems afterwards to have come into the hands of the Holts of Lower Place in Castleton; Fishwick, op. cit. 324. The family also held lands in Castleton; *Lancs. Inq. p.m.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), ii, 16-18.

³⁶ The Byron Chartulary has several deeds relating to the family; see also the account of Scholefield. Thus Geoffrey de Turnagh granted the whole of Turnagh, which his father Richard had held, to Richard de Turnagh at a rent of 3*s.* 2*d.*; Byron Chartul. no. 78/205. Henry de Turnagh granted Over Turnagh to Henry son of Ellen, with common of pasture in Spotland, at 12*d.* rent; ibid. no. 79/206. Nicholas son of Richard de Turnagh afterwards granted all Turnagh, which he had inherited from his father, to Sir John de Byron and Joan his wife; ibid. no. 49/207. See also Raines MSS. xi, 247, &c. William son of Geoffrey de Turnagh received a moiety of the Leys in Hollinworth from William de Rudhurst in 1298; Towneley MS. GG, no. 700.

John son of Alan de Hollinworth in 1278-80 claimed an oxgang of land in Butterworth against William son of Adam de Turnagh; De Banco R. 24, m. 65; 36, m. 125 d.

John de Hindley in 1296 claimed an oxgang in Butterworth against John son of Adam de 'Turney' and Alice his wife; De Banco R. 113, m. 20 d.; 125, m. 157.

³⁷ Survey, ut sup. 41, 43. John was the son of Charles Butterworth, who died in 1622 holding the capital messuage called Turnagh in Butterworth and the Crook in Hundersfield of Sir John Byron, the former by a rent of 4*s.* 3*d.*, and the latter

Turnagh, corrupted into Turner, occurs in deeds of the 13th century.³⁸ The family appear to have settled at Scholefield, and in 1626 Edward Whitehead held part of it by grant of Gerard Scholefield, paying a rent of 7*d.* to Sir John Byron; John Butterworth held another part.³⁷

SCHOLEFIELD or Schofield gave its name to a family who held it for many centuries.³⁹ A number of the charters have been preserved,⁴⁰ from which it appears that John son of Alan de Hollinworth gave Adam de Turnagh, his lord, an oxgang of land in the Scholefield in Hollinworth, which his father had purchased from Roger de Winterworth; ⁴⁰ and that Roger de Butterworth released all his right in the same oxgang.⁴¹ William son of Adam de Turnagh had a grant of land in Longden Brook,⁴² and perhaps John de Scholefield, the first known to have assumed the name, was another son of Adam, or else a son of William.⁴³ John appears to have had several sons—John, William, Adam, and Richard;⁴⁴ and in the time of Richard II John the son, then known as John

by one of 3*d.*; also lands in Bedford and Pennington; *Lancs. Inq. p.m.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), iii, 338. See Fishwick, *Rochdale*, 355-7.

³⁸ Scholefield Hall is now regarded as in the hamlet of Low House; but from the charters quoted below it appears to have been originally within Hollinworth in Clegg.

³⁹ In Towneley MS. GG, no. 558-739.

⁴⁰ GG, no. 604-5.

⁴¹ GG, no. 602.

⁴² GG, no. 607; the grantors were William de Sale and Cecily his wife, who occur again in Hollinworth. Cecily widow of William de Sale in 1294 granted all her lands in 'Witach' to John and Adam sons of Adam de Turnagh; GG, no. 674.

⁴³ William son of Geoffrey de Turnagh in 1301 gave John de le Scholefield part of his land in Butterworth called the Leys, to be held of the nearer chief lord of the fee; ibid. GG, no. 663. Two years later John obtained land called the 'Brerylees' in Hollinworth from the son of Andrew de Rudhurst; GG, no. 664.

In 1306 Matthew de Clegg granted to John de Scholefield the homage of Alexander de Belfield, viz. a rent of 12*d.*; and that of Richard de Hundersfield, viz. 1*d.*; GG, no. 629.

⁴⁴ John son of John de Scholefield was a witness in 1321; *Whalley Coucher*, ii, 634. In 1 Edw. (?) III William son of Henry de Ogden gave to John son of John de Scholefield land in Hollinworth of which the bounds touched or included Whitacre Syke, Birchinbrook, and Brierleys; Towneley MS. GG, no. 612.

William son of John de Scholefield received land in Hollinworth called Simonrode from Richard son of Andrew de Hollinworth in 1313; ibid. no. 621; see also no. 647 (1321).

William de Lightollers in 1325 released to Adam son of John de Scholefield all his claim to land in Hundersfield then occupied by Adam; GG, no. 630. Adam de Scholefield in 1340 released to his brother John all his land in Clegg for life; ibid. no. 727.

William de Lightollers, apparently in 1320-1 (14 Edw. —), gave to Richard, son of John de Scholefield a rent of 6*d.* payable by Richard de Ogden from a tenement in Blatchinworth; ibid. no.

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de Scholefield the elder, made a grant of lands to his son John.⁴⁵ At the same time a Henry de Scholefield appears,⁴⁶ and in the next century a Hugh de Scholefield, probably son of the younger John, was in possession.⁴⁷ He left a son James,⁴⁸ from whom the descent is readily traced.⁴⁹ Cuthbert Scholefield, great-grandson of James, living in the time of Elizabeth, was party to numerous suits.⁵⁰ His nephew Gerard⁵¹ succeeded, and died at Holt in



SCHOLEFIELD. *Gules a fesse between three bulls' heads cabossed argent.*

Butterworth on 1 October 1638, holding Scholefield Hall, Windy Hills, and the Holt; Windy Hills which had been purchased of Sir John Byron, was held of the king by knight's service, but the tenure of the rest was unknown.⁵² The son and heir James was eighteen years of age; he was living in 1665, when he recorded a pedigree at the Visitation,⁵³ and was succeeded by his son Radcliffe, whose son, grandson, and great-grandson were Nonconformist ministers. Scholefield Hall was sold in 1673 to Seth Clayton, and in 1770 to Robert Entwisle of Foxholes.

CLEGG⁵⁴ gave a surname to its earlier owners,⁵⁵ who were succeeded by a branch of the Belfields,⁵⁶ from whom it descended in the 16th century to the

625; John de Scholefield, clerk, was a witness. Ellen de Belfield in 1334 claimed lands in Butterworth against Richard son of John de Scholefield; De Banco R. 298, m. 53; while in the same year Nicholas son of Ellen de Belfield released all his title to lands in Clegg to Richard son of John de Scholefield; Towneley MS. GG, no. 589. Richard son of Roger de Butterworth in 7 Edw. (? 1314) granted to Richard de Scholefield, clerk, the service of 12d. due to him from lands in Scholefield; *ibid.* no. 627.

⁴⁵ *Ibid.* no. 559, 686; the date is 1387-8, and the grant was of the Upper and Nether 'Efield.' In 1368 John de Scholefield the elder had given the Upper 'Heyfield' to his brother Richard for life, with remainder to John's son Adam; *ibid.* no. 713, 613. From this it seems probable that it is the same John de Scholefield who appears in a number of deeds in the time of Edward III. e.g. *ibid.* no. 684 (1332), 626 (1347), 586 (1363), 628 (1383-4).

⁴⁶ In 1382 Henry de Scholefield released to John de Scholefield and his heirs all his claim to lands, &c., in Butterworth, Whitacres, Brierleys, and Middlehurst; *ibid.* no. 634. Henry de Scholefield in 1405 received lands in Spotland and Hundersfield which had belonged to Nicholas Coke of Milnhouse and Alice his wife; John son of Henry was a witness; *ibid.* no. 643. A charter by Henry is dated at Whitacres, 1421, while a feoffment of lands in Butterworth and Hundersfield was made by his son John in 1424; *ibid.* no. 633, 632.

⁴⁷ In 1436 there was a change of the feoffees of the lands of Hugh de Scholefield; *ibid.* no. 714.

An undated petition shows that Hugh de Scholefield was son of John, brother of Henry de Scholefield, who, in or before 1393, was a trustee of Thomas de Chaderton; *Lancs. Inq. p.m.* (Chet. Soc.), i, 56. It would appear therefore that the John son of Henry had died without issue, or that there were two Henrys.

Hugh son of Hugh Scholefield came to a violent end in 1451; *ibid.* ii, 58. He may have been the elder brother of James, who succeeded.

⁴⁸ James son of Hugh de Scholefield, and Margaret his wife, appear from about 1450 onwards. In 1453 James received from the feoffees lands in Hundersfield and Spotland which had formerly belonged to William son of John son of Richard de Scholefield; Towneley MS. GG, no. 564; see also Pal. of Lanc. Plea R. 29, m. 2 d. (John son of Richard was living in 1410; Towneley MS. GG, no. 618.) Nicholas and Denis, sons of the said William, re-

leased their claim a month later; *ibid.* no. 578, 579.

In 1455-6 Thomas Pilkington and Alexander Radcliffe as arbitrators gave their decision in disputes which had been stirred between the brothers Hugh, Nicholas, Ralph, Henry, and John Scholefield, and James son of Hugh, on the one side; and Alexander, son of Alexander Butterworth of Belfield, and his brothers on the other side; Alexander Butterworth was ordered to pay £20 to Hugh Scholefield; *ibid.* no. 584.

James son of Hugh, and Margaret his wife, in 1456-7 received from the trustee (Richard del Forth, rector of Radcliffe) lands called Turnagh Efields and Ley Boughtanrode, with remainders to Nicholas, Ralph, Henry, and John Scholefield, and the right heirs of Hugh; *ibid.* no. 599.

From a claim to lands at Lincoln in 1588 it appears that John Scholefield just named had a son John, whose son William left the land claimed; the heir was Cuthbert Scholefield, son of James son of Hugh son of the above-named James Scholefield; *ibid.* no. 782.

⁴⁹ An outline of the pedigree is given in the preceding note. Hugh son and heir of James Scholefield and his feoffees in 1511 granted to Gilbert and Henry sons of Richard Whitley a messuage and lands known as Overhey and Marterlaw in Scholefield, rendering 8s. 10d. to the chief lords; *ibid.* no. 562. In 1514, after an arbitration, Hugh Scholefield was ordered to pay a rent of 2s. 3d. to Robert Holt, in respect of lands in Spotland; *ibid.* no. 688. James Scholefield, son of Hugh, was plaintiff in 1537 respecting Whitacre; Fishwick, *Rochdale*, 359.

⁵⁰ *Ibid.* 359; he sought a divorce from his wife, and afterwards lived with one Jane Langley, by whom he had issue. Cuthbert, son and heir of James Scholefield, procured a crest to be added to his ancient coat of arms, which was confirmed, by William Flower, Norroy, in 1583; Towneley MS. GG, no. 558. He purchased the Holt; *ibid.* no. 591, 724, 733. At one time he was required to make a public apology to Arthur Ashton and Roger Chadwick; *ibid.* no. 707.

In 1565 he settled his estates, with remainders successively to his brothers, Alexander, James, and Richard; to Alexander, bastard son of Arthur Scholefield, and Arthur his son; deed recited in *Inq. p.m.* of Gerard Scholefield; see also Pal. of Lanc. Feet of F. bde. 30 (1568), m. 50.

The will of Arthur Scholefield, 1557, is printed in Piccope's *Wills* (Chet. Soc.), i, 39.

⁵¹ In the Survey of 1626 he is called

grand-nephew of Cuthbert. The estate then included 367 acres; a chief rent of 3s. 4d., due to the Saviles, had not been paid for many years; Raines MSS. xxi, 35.

⁵² Duchy of Lanc. Inq. p.m. xxviii, no. 26.

⁵³ Dugdale, *Visit.* (Chet. Soc.), 256. For the later descents and tabular pedigree see Fishwick, *op. cit.* 361-4.

⁵⁴ In 1261 Alice widow of Geoffrey de Buerdsill sought dower in Clegg against various tenants, whose names and holdings were as follows: Richard son of Ivo, Alexander de Blackstub, Richard de Turnagh, and John de Newbold, each 1 oxgang; William son of Warine, Richard le Reus, Andrew son of Ellen, Richard Byron, and Agnes the widow, each $\frac{1}{2}$ oxgang; Curia Regis R. 171, m. 46 d.

⁵⁵ Hugh de Clegg, early in the 13th century, gave to Ivo his brother (see the last note) part of Whitacres, within bounds beginning at 'Sallomo' Bridge on the east, at the cold waters, descending to the brook between Middlehurst and Rudhurst, and to the Brook of Hollinworth, and the balk (*liranticulum*) between Blatchinworth and Whitacres, and up to 'Solamio' syke; Towneley MS. GG, no. 702. Henry son of Ralph or Randle de Clegg gave to his son John land in Butterworth in 1310-11; the bounds began at Butterworth ford over the Roch; *ibid.* no. 598. Henry granted all his messuages and lands in Clegg to his brother Thomas in 1316-17; *ibid.* no. 566. To another of Henry's charters Roger and Adam de Clegg were witnesses; no. 635. Geoffrey de Clegg attested a deed in 1334; *ibid.* no. 589.

Eugenia widow of Richard Byron in 1284 claimed 7 acres in Butterworth against Ralph and Matthew de Clegg; it was shown that Matthew held of Ralph, who had had a grant from Alice sister of Eugenia; Assize R. 1268, m. 12 d.

⁵⁶ Matthew de Clegg in 1310-11 granted all his lands to Adam de Belfield, and Thomas the son of Adam in 1348 granted land to his brother Adam de Belfield; Fishwick, *Rochdale*, 350-1, quoting High Legh deeds. Adam son of Geoffrey de Clegg and Alice his wife in 1373 claimed dower in three messuages, &c., in Butterworth against Adam de Belfield; De Banco R. 452, m. 373 d.; 454, m. 337 d.; 456, m. 234 d. Short abstracts of the Belfield deeds are printed in *Lancs. and Ches. Antiq. Notes*, i, 41, 50.

A claim by Alexander Belfield against Elizabeth and Anne Belfield in 1561 exhibited the following pedigree:—Christopher Belfield—s. Ralph—s. Ralph—s. Adam—sons Arthur (heir), Charles, and Alexander (apparently the claimant); Arthur had sons Ralph (heir) and Charles;

Ashtons.⁵⁷ It afterwards passed through various hands, becoming at last the property of the Fentons. It was sold by Mr. R. K. Fenton in 1906.

CLEGG HALL stands on the site of an older house on high ground about $2\frac{1}{2}$ miles north-east of Rochdale. It is a strong-looking stone building of three stories and an attic, rectangular in plan, measuring about 68 ft. in length by 50 ft. from front to back, with three gables on each face and a projecting porch on the principal or north front. It was apparently built at the end of the 16th or beginning of the 17th century (the Ashton mullet carved in the spandrels of the entrance doorway fixing the date somewhere between 1571 and 1622), and is a good example of the stone-built house of the period, with mullioned and transomed windows. The lower story forms a basement with a high plinth at the level of the sill of the windows of the principal floor, the ground being raised in front opposite to the entrance, which no doubt was approached by steps. In front the building is therefore apparently of less height than at the sides and back, where the ground retains its natural level.

The plan is interesting, and of quite a different type from the traditional one from which the majority of house plans in the district are derived. It has indeed on the ground floor a large room taking up the north-east angle, which represents the hall, and has at the west doorways opening north and south to the porch and main staircase, recalling in some degree the passage through the screens at the lower end of a hall. But otherwise the disposition of the rooms is entirely dictated by the simple rectangular plan, with the staircase set centrally in the back or south half, and four approximately equal rooms on each floor. The kitchen is in the base, at the south-west angle,

and the fireplaces of the various rooms are arranged back to back in a wall running east and west through the middle of the building.

The building as a whole is very plain in detail, the whole of the ornamentation being concentrated in the porch, which is of two stories under the middle gable, with a round-arched doorway under a square head on the ground floor, and a five-light mullioned and transomed window above, with two lights on each return. The doorway is flanked by pairs of classic columns, with entablatures over, and the window above also has a column on each side with a smaller entablature and cornice of less projection. The detail of this Renaissance work is coarse and poor, and the capitals of the columns of a rather non-descript character. The elevations are very symmetrical; on each side of the porch are two windows on each floor, of four or five lights, and the gables have copings and ornamental finials. The principal first-floor room, or hall, is distinguished by having five-light windows. The north and west sides are faced with large coursed stones, but on the east and south the walling is of rubble. All the windows have labels, those of the first floor being continued round the building as a string-course, and nearly all the windows retain their original mullions and transoms. The roofs are covered with stone slates. The original appearance of the interior has been entirely lost by the house having been divided for a long time into separate tenements, a use to which it is still put.^{57a}

CLEGGSWOOD⁵⁸ became the seat of the Belfields of Belfield about 1500,⁵⁹ and by the marriage of Anne Belfield to Richard Ingham was about 1640 carried to the latter family, who owned it for the greater part of a century.⁶⁰ Little Clegg was owned by a family named Clegg.⁶¹ Whitacre or Whittaker was at one

Pal. of Lanc. Plea R. 210, m. 16. Ralph son of Christopher was living in 1445; Pal. of Lanc. Plea R. 7, m. 15; 12, m. 82; Ralph senior and Ralph his son in 1482; Pal. of Lanc. Writs Proton. 22 Edw. IV. The Inq. p.m. of Adam Belfield has been preserved; it shows that he died in 1543 holding messuages, &c., in Butterworth of Sir John Byron by a rent of 6s. 8d., and in Spotland of Robert Holt by a rent of 6s.; Arthur, his son and heir, was over thirty-six years of age; Duchy of Lanc. Inq. p.m. vii, no. 34.

⁵⁷ Ralph Belfield of Clegg died in August 1557, leaving two daughters, Elizabeth and Anne, to share the inheritance; his will is printed in Piccope's *Wills* (Chet. Soc.), iii, 83-6.

The two sisters, after child marriages and divorces, married brothers—Edward and William, sons of Arthur Ashton.

Richard Legh and Anne his wife, Alexander Barlow and Elizabeth his wife in 1563 obtained the manor of Clegg, &c., from Alexander Belfield; Pal. of Lanc. Feet of F. bdle. 25, m. 35. In 1572 Alexander, son and heir of Alexander Barlow and Elizabeth his wife, had a moiety of the manors of Clegg and Dutton; *ibid.* bdle. 34, m. 98. Arthur Ashton in 1552 purchased a messuage and land in Butterworth from Richard Butterworth and Joan his wife; *ibid.* bdle. 26, m. 245. His will is in *Pal. Note Bk.* iv, 118.

Edward and Elizabeth Ashton had no issue, so that the whole came to Anne and William Ashton, whose son Theophilus succeeded. A settlement by William

Ashton, Anne his wife, and Elizabeth Belfield her sister, was made in 1576; Pal. of Lanc. Feet of F. bdle. 38, m. 40. Theophilus sold it in 1618 to his sister Elizabeth and her husband Edmund Howarth, and by descent and purchase it came to the Fentons; see Fishwick, *op. cit.* 352, 353. Susan, another sister, married John Hyde, and they had a third of the manor in 1599; Pal. of Lanc. Feet of F. bdle. 61, m. 143. In 1626 Elizabeth Howarth and Robert her son held Clegg Hall with 179 acres of land, by grant of the trustees of Theophilus Ashton of Clegg; while Grace, widow of Alexander Butterworth, as co-heir of Anne, late wife of William Ashton of Clegg, held 81 acres. In all a rent of 6s. 3d. was paid to the Saviles (or their representatives); *Surv. in Raines MSS.* xxi, 60.

^{57a} There is a local proverb, 'As ill as Clegg Hall boggart,' referring to a tradition that the man in possession at one time destroyed the rightful heirs by drowning them in the moat, the house being afterwards haunted; Fishwick.

⁵⁸ Thomas the Barber of Coventry and Joan his wife, daughter of Edmund son of Jordan, and heir of Alice daughter of William Pearson of Cleggswold, his mother, in 1401 granted lands in Falinge to William the Cook of Rochdale; Towneley MS. GG, no. 569.

⁵⁹ See Fishwick, *op. cit.* 348-50. Thomas Belfield died in 1532, holding messuages, manors, and lands in Butterworth, Hundersfield, Spotland, and Castleton of Robert Holt by knight's service and a rent of 5s. 7d.; the annual value was 20

marks. Thomas, the son and heir, was fourteen years of age; Duchy of Lanc. Inq. p.m. vi, no. 26. From the account of Belfield it will be seen that that estate was in 1557 held partly of Thomas Belfield by a rent of 2s. Thomas was succeeded by his son John, who in 1601 made a settlement of his lands in Butterworth, Hundersfield, and Spotland, in conjunction with his wife Margaret; the capital messuage or manor of Cleggswold was assigned for life to Deborah, wife of Abraham Belfield, son and heir of John; the lands in Butterworth, &c., were held of John Holt by a rent of 5s. 7½d., but some in Hundersfield were held of the king; *Lancs. Inq. p.m.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), ii, 22-4. Abraham died in 1614, and was succeeded by his son John, fourteen years of age, who died in 1632, leaving, by Elizabeth his wife, a son and heir Thomas, seven years old. The three widows—Margaret, Deborah, and Elizabeth—were living when the inquisition was made. The estate was held of John Holt; Duchy of Lanc. Inq. p.m. xxvii, no. 3. Thomas succeeded, but his sister Anne ultimately inherited.

⁶⁰ Fishwick, *loc. cit.*

⁶¹ *Ibid.* 389. Oliver son of John Holt of Hundersfield, was charged with having maltreated Alice wife of John Clegg in 1445. He replied that he had submitted to an arbitration as to the matter, and should not be troubled further; John Clegg had been ordered to pay him 40s. The said John, however, averred that he had consented to an arbitration only on condition that Henry Marland,

A HISTORY OF LANCASHIRE

time owned by the Scholefields.⁶³ *HOLLINWORTH*, or at least the portion which belonged to the Hospitallers, was long tenanted by a family named Hill.⁶³ About 1270 2 oxgangs in Hollinworth were held by William de Sale and Cecily his wife, in the latter's right, it would appear; and in 1278 a messuage and half an oxgang were granted to John de Houghton and Cecily his wife at a rent of 13d.⁶⁴ Afterwards

the estate was sold to Sir John de Byron and Joan his wife.⁶⁵

Of *HAUGH* or Halgh there is little to be said; ⁶⁶ it was acquired by the Byrons.

In Bleakedgate was *OGDEN*, originally Akened, formerly held by Monk Bretton Priory.⁶⁷ It also became part of the Byron estate.⁶⁸ *ROUGHBANK* was in 1626 owned by James Chadwick; the estate

vicar of Rochdale, and certain others were among the arbitrators, and that had not been the case; *Pal. of Lanc. Plea R.* 10, m. 23.

One James Clegg—not, it would seem, of this family—died in 1621 holding lands (formerly the Hospitallers') of the Earl of Derby by a rent of 2½d. James his son and heir was twenty-eight years old; *Lancs. Inq. p.m.* (Rec. Soc.), iii, 370.

⁶³ Some Whitacre, or Whitacres, deeds have been noticed in the account of Scholefield. John de Scholefield in 3 Edw. (? II) gave to John his son all his land at Whitacre, with remainder to Adam, another son; Towneley MS. RR, no. 382. One of the grants by Henry de Scholefield in 1421 was dated at Whitacres; Towneley MS. GG, no. 633.

The estate was in dispute in 1537, when James Scholefield of Scholefield claimed by entail against Hugh son of John Scholefield, who was in possession; *Fishwick*, op. cit. 359, quoting Duchy Plead. Hen. VIII, viii, S, 8; x, S, 9, 9a. Richard Lightollers of Windybank, and Henry Scholefield of Whitacre, had in 1557–8 the guardianship of Robert son and heir of Lawrence Newall, whose mother Agnes afterwards married Robert Butterworth; and Henry afterwards (1564) became sole guardian; Towneley MS. GG, no. 703.

Arthur Scholefield in 1569 purchased 60 acres of moor from Sir John Byron; *Pal. of Lanc. Feet of F. bde.* 31, m. 104. In 1575 Henry Scholefield the younger and Jane his wife seem to have released to Arthur Lord and Margaret his wife a messuage and lands in Butterworth; *ibid.* bde. 37, m. 86. A settlement of six messuages and various lands was made in 1584 by Henry Scholefield, Isabel his wife, and Arthur his son; *ibid.* bde. 46, m. 174. A further arrangement was made in 1596, Arthur's wife Margaret being concerned; *ibid.* 59, m. 367. Henry Scholefield died in 1607 holding land in Hollinworth of John Holt by knight's service and 10½d. rent, and in Butterworth of Sir John Byron by knight's service and 4s. rent. The heir was his grandson Abraham (son of Arthur), thirty years of age; *Lancs. Inq. p.m.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), i, 133.

In 1626 Jacob Scholefield held Whitacres, with 138 acres, by grant of Abraham Scholefield, in 1615; *Surv. in Raines MSS.* xxi, fol. 67. For the later descent, after the estate had been much divided, see *Fishwick*, op. cit. 366, 367.

Brierley, mentioned in preceding notes, was part of Whitacre.

⁶⁸ The name is often spelt Hollingworth. In the Hospitallers' rental, c. 1540, it is said that Thomas Hill paid 6d. for Hollinworth; *Kuerden MSS.* v, fol. 84. Thomas, son of Ellis Hill in 1477, was bound to settle the lands he had by his wife Alison upon his son Ellis; Towneley MS. GG, no. 689. In 1514 Thomas son of Ellis Hill received certain lands in Swinestiker and Saltley in Butterworth

from the feoffees; *GG*, no. 610. Thomas Hill (a minor) was in 1577–9 engaged in various suits regarding lands in Hollinworth and Sladen; *Ducatus Lanc.* ii, 56, 61, 87.

In 1626 Thomas Hill, grandson of Thomas Hill and Dorothy his wife, and great-grandson of Arthur Whitehead (1588) held Upper Hollinworth; *Surv.*, ut sup. 67. Part is now the endowment of Hill's Charity for schools at Ogden and Hollinworth.

⁶⁴ *Final Conc.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), i, 155. The rent was payable to William and Cecily and the heirs of Cecily. From the following note it will be seen that John de (West-) houghton was also called John de Rylands.

In the Byron Chartulary is a grant by Thomas de Bamford to Matthew de Hollinworth of a fourth part of Whitacres and Middlehurst, with common of pasture in the vill of Hollinworth at 6d. rent; no. 60/130. It is possible that this Matthew is the Matthew de Bromhale who, in conjunction with Helen his wife, acquired 2 oxgangs in Butterworth in 1235 from Reyner son of Henry; *Final Conc.* i, 68. Cecily daughter of Matthew de Hollinworth gave a moiety of Whitacres to Adam de Turnagh in exchange for 13½ acres in Hollinworth; Byron Chartul. no. 26/59. This Cecily was the wife of William de Sale; as is shown by pleas of 1293–6, when Cecily widow of William de Sale claimed 6 acres of pasture against John de Thornham, and the same (also described as daughter of Matthew de Hollinworth) claimed a messuage and ½ oxgang against Henry de Ogden; *De Banco R.* 101, m. 47 d.; 102, m. 6; 108, m. 4.

⁶⁵ William de Sale and Cecily his wife granted all their land in Hollinworth to Sir John de Byron and Joan his wife; and about the same time John son of John de Rylands and Cecily his wife made a grant of the land they had had from William and Cecily; Byron Chartul. no. 35/58, 36/69. In 1298 Cecily widow of William de Sale, calling herself Cecily de Hollinworth, released to the Byrons the 2 oxgangs in Hollinworth formerly sold to them; no. 21/67.

John de Sale in 1363 released to John de Scholefield all his title to lands in Butterworth; *GG*, no. 586. Some Sale family deeds will be found in *Raines MSS.* iv, 2–30.

⁶⁶ Andrew son of Henry son of Wen and Christiana his wife granted to Sir John de Byron all that land in Butterworth called the 'Haly' (? Halgh) which they held of him; Byron Chartul. no. 73/208. In 1262 John de Byron established his title to 60 acres in Butterworth against Andrew de Butterworth and Christiana his wife; *Final Conc.* i, 135. Christiana daughter of Andrew Cheverell released to Sir John all her land in Butterworth, viz. the 'Halet'; Byron Chartul. no. 74, 209. Henry son of Thomas de Butterworth granted to Sir John de Byron his lord the land called Little Halgh, formerly

held by Andrew del Halgh; Byron Chartul. no. 76/213.

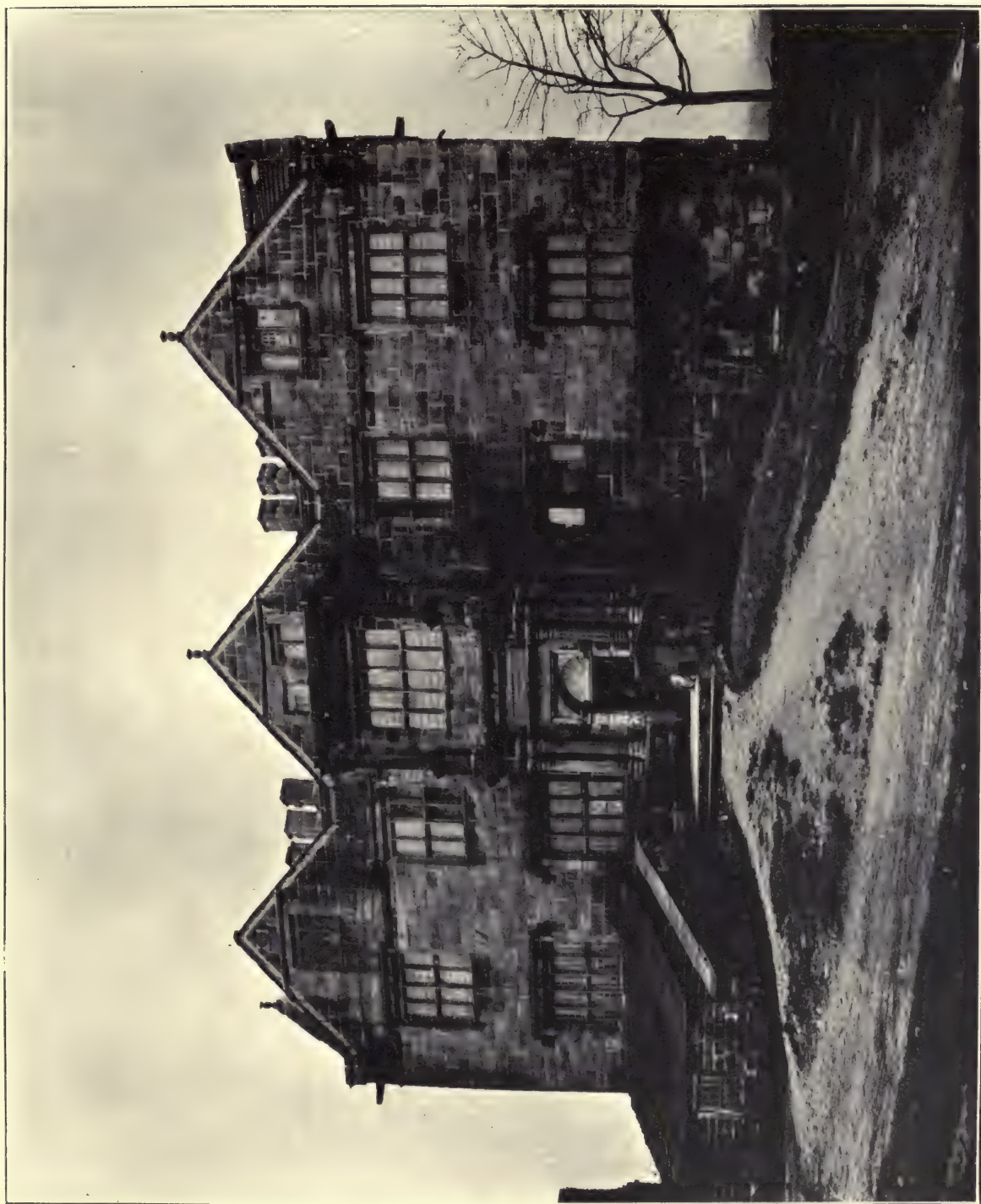
⁶⁷ From the Monk Bretton Chartulary (Lansdowne MS. 405) it appears that Roger de Notton gave to Monk Bretton all his lands in Ogden, viz. half the vill, and that John son of Hugh de Holland confirmed this; fol. 44b. Gilbert de Notton also gave the monks his land in Ogden, viz., half the vill—probably the same half; he also gave William son of Osbert de Marsden land there which had formerly been held by Adam son of Award Birun, at a rent of 4s.; fol. 53b. Richard son of Hugh de Butterworth and Alice his wife afterwards released to R. (? Reginald) the moiety of the vill of Ogden, which Gilbert de Notton had given to William Gald, father of Alice; fol. 44b. Reginald de Ogden released his rights to the monks, to whom also Baldwin Tyas, for the health of Margaret his wife, released his right and the rent of 12d. formerly paid by Reginald; fol. 45.

⁶⁸ Adam le Rus, Prior of Bretton, granted to Adam le Sladen (Slaveden) at a rent of 3s. the oxgang in Ogden which Gilbert de Notton had given to the priory; *ibid.* fol. 15b; Byron Chartul. no. 10/56.

In 1276 Adam de Sladen claimed a messuage and an oxgang of land in Ogden against Maud daughter of William Gaddon, and William son of Richard de Cliff; *De Banco R.* 15, m. 89. Adam gave the oxgang, &c., to his son Swain; Byron Chartul. no. 27/62. Swain granted to Sir John de Byron a rent of 12d. a year from the oxgang in Ogden in Butterworth he had had from his father; and Wagner son of Adam de Sladen released his right to the oxgang in Ogden received from his father, and to half of Quickley; *ibid.* no. 71/183, 63/49. William, Prior of Monk Bretton, in 1292 withdrew his claim against John (de) Byron concerning a messuage, oxgang of land, and 12d. rent in Ogden, but John held jointly with his wife, who was not named in the writ; *Assize R.* 408, m. 60, 71. Adam de Sladen is called 'Knyttepurs.'

The other moiety of Ogden seems to have been obtained by the Byrons from Germain de Ogden, who in 1296 granted Sir John de Byron and Joan his wife two-thirds of an oxgang there, with the homage of Adam de Prestwich and the service of 2d. due from him; *ibid.* no. 15/53. In the same chartulary are some other Ogden deeds. By one Geoffrey de Chetham granted to Adam son of Bibby (William) and Cecily his wife land in Ogden purchased by him; and Adam de Ogden, with the consent of Cecily his wife, gave half the land to Richard his son, and another half to Adam his son; no. 28/63, 12/64, 11/61. Among the place-names there occur—Thornyhead, Coldgreave, Cutfordack brook, Marerede yott, Lese clough, and Rosete clough.

In 1626 Abraham Turnough had in his possession the above-cited deed by Adam de Slaveden to Swain his son; *Surv.* ut sup. 55. The Turnoughs were succeeded by Taylors; *Fishwick*, op. cit. 384.



BUTTERWORTH : CLEGG HALL

descended regularly from father to son, and in 1889 was the residence of Dr. John Chadwick.⁶⁹⁻⁷⁰

The names of some other of the more ancient owners can be obtained from inquisitions⁷¹ and from the Survey of 1626.⁷² In this year the common measured 590 acres stinted and 915 acres unstinted, and contained two coal mines, very beneficial to the occupiers.⁷³ There was no copyhold land.

The most considerable landowners in 1787 were John Entwisle and the Misses Halliwell, but together they paid less than a fifth of the land tax.⁷⁴

The chapel of *ST. JAMES* at *MILN-CHURCH ROW* was built, it is supposed, about 1497.⁷⁵ It was in 1548 seized by the Crown as a chantry chapel, but purchased by the inhabitants for 36*s.* 8*d.*⁷⁶ The list of curates is almost complete from 1590, but there was no endowment.⁷⁷ In 1715 the stipend paid was £13, partly out of tithes and partly out of pew rents;⁷⁸ but afterwards some additional endowment was obtained.⁷⁹ The old chapel, having become ruinous, was abandoned in 1798, and a new one built, which had to be rebuilt in 1815. It was taken down when the present church was built in 1869.⁸⁰ The old chapel bell is now at Hollinworth school;⁸¹ the sundial, dated 1664, is in the vicarage

garden.⁸² Entries in the registers begin in 1715. The district was formed in 1858. The vicar of Rochdale presents the incumbents, who are styled vicars. The following is a list of those since 1693:—⁸³

- 1693 James Lawton
- oc.1696-9 John Halliwell
- 1699 Thomas Milne, M.A. (Brasenose Coll. Oxf.)
- c. 1702 Peter Ashton, B.A. (Peterhouse, Camb.)
- 1718 Robert Pearson, B.A. (St. John's Coll. Camb.)
- 1739 Joshua Tillotson, M.A. (Emmanuel Coll. Camb.)
- 1745 Joseph Sutcliffe, B.A. (St. John's Coll. Camb.)
- 1759 Joseph Haigh, B.A. (Magdalene Coll. Camb.)
- 1795 John Hutchinson, B.A. (Corpus Christi Coll. Camb.)
- 1800 William Hodgson
- 1832 Francis Robert Raines, M.A. (Lamb.)⁸⁴
- 1878 Howard Augustus Crosbie, M.A. (Trinity Coll. Camb.)⁸⁵
- 1883 Frank Parkin Wright, M.A. (St. John's Coll. Camb.)

⁶⁹⁻⁷⁰ Fishwick, op. cit. 384-5; see also Raines MSS. iii, 93.

⁷¹ Roger Holt of Bridge Hall near Bury in 1594 held 2 acres in Whitacre in Clegg; Duchy of Lanc. Inq. p.m. xvi, no. 6.

James Buckley, of Whitfield in Crompton, by his will of 1627, left his farm at Ogden to George his younger son; *ibid.* xxvii, no. 51.

Thomas Warburton the elder, Ellen his wife, and Thomas his son, made settlements of an estate in Butterworth in 1558; *Pal. of Lanc. Feet of F. bde.* 16, m. 35; 19, m. 23. Thomas Warburton, who died in 1634 at Stubbins, held messuages in Little Clegg, Hollinworth, and Butterworth; *Duchy of Lanc. Inq. p.m.* xxx, no. 93.

Otiwell Greave died in April 1627, holding messuages and lands in Butterworth of the heir of Geoffrey de Butterworth by the rent of a ginger-root; James his son and heir, was thirty-six years of age; *Towneley MS. C.* 8, 13, p. 460.

Ralph Taylor, who died in 1631, held a messuage and land of the Earl of Derby as of his manor of Much Woolton, lately belonging to the dissolved Hospital of St. John; Robert his son and heir was over forty in 1635; *ibid.* 1182; see also Fishwick, op. cit. 338.

A number of fines are extant relating to the holding of the Collinge family; e.g. *Pal. of Lanc. Feet of F. bde.* 12, m. 78; 53, m. 29; 56, m. 92. In the 17th century a family of this name held a moiety of Birchinley; Fishwick, *Rochdale*, 369-70.

⁷² Robert Holt had 109 acres in Clegg by grant of Gerard Scholefield to his father, John Holt of Stubley. Jordan Chadwick produced a charter of 1294 by Richard son of Hugh de Belfield to Henry his brother, as his title to 45 acres. William Butterworth, 'the rich butcher,' held 34 acres formerly the Hospitalers' land; and Robert Taylor had 33 acres, also the Hospitalers'.

⁷³ *Surv. ut sup.* 58.

⁷⁴ Land-tax returns at Preston.

⁷⁵ There is a good account in Fish-

wick's *Rochdale*, 202-15, from which the details in the text are in the main taken.

In 1497 Edward Butterworth the elder conveyed to his son Robert and others a plot of land called Gooseholme, in Belgrene, close to which plot, or upon it, the chapel was built; Fishwick, quoting the original deed in the church chest. In 1514 a house 'near the chapel of St. James the Apostle' was given to John Clegg, the chaplain, for life that he might say mass for the donor, Edward Butterworth, and his parents; *ibid.*

In 1521 Robert Butterworth of Clegg, son and heir of Richard Butterworth of the Holt and grandson of the said Edward, gave Gooseholme and Halgh Green to feoffees to fulfil his grandfather's will; *Towneley MS. GG.* no. 645.

In some later proceedings it was alleged that the chapel had been built on the waste by the inhabitants generally; Fishwick, op. cit. 204, quoting *Duchy Plead.* Eliz. xxii, B, 12, 12a.

⁷⁶ Buckley D. in *Add. MS.* 32107, no. 408; but 13*s.* 4*d.* is the price in Raines, *Chantries* (Chet. Soc.), ii, 277; a chalice was taken away by the commissioners; *ibid.* ii, 269. In 1552 Henry Ferror was the priest; there were only a chalice and vestment in the chapel; *Ch. Gds.* (Chet. Soc.), 49. Henry Ferror occurs in the lists of clergy from 1541 to 1565; in the latter year he was 'decrepit.'

⁷⁷ The minister in Elizabeth's time was paid chiefly by the contributions of the people, but the Archbishop of Canterbury as rector allowed him 40*s.* out of the tithes; Fishwick, op. cit. 203-4.

About 1610 Milnrow Chapel was supported by the inhabitants; *Hist. MSS. Com. Rep.* xiv, App. iv, 12. In 1650 the Parliamentary Commissioners reported that Sir John Byron, as farmer of the tithes, had been accustomed to pay £4 10*s.* a year to the minister; out of the sequestered tithes an additional £50 had been allowed; *Commonw. Ch. Surv.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), 21; *Plund. Minis. Accts.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), 4, 38, 90; ii, 290.

It was recommended that a parish be formed for it.

⁷⁸ Gastrell, *Notitia* (Chet. Soc.), ii, 139; from the tithes £3 6*s.* 8*d.*, from seats £8 18*s.* 6*d.*, and from the loft or gallery, £1 8*s.* 4*d.* There were no surplice fees, and the contributions were small. There were two chapel wardens and an assistant, chosen by the curate and vestry.

⁷⁹ Samuel Chetham (of Castleton) in 1717 gave £200; *ibid.* ii, 142.

⁸⁰ Fishwick, op. cit. 205-6; a view of the building in 1772 is given; *ibid.* 202.

⁸¹ *Ibid.* 206; the date is 1654.

⁸² *Ibid.* 207.

⁸³ The church papers at Chester Dioc. Reg. begin in 1693. The list is taken in great part from Fishwick, op. cit., where some earlier curates' names will be found; they do not appear to have stayed more than a year or two in most cases. John Pollett, who was there from 1647 to 1657, was in 1650 described as 'godly, orthodox, and well qualified,' but appears to have been a Royalist in sympathies; see W. A. Shaw, *Bury Classis* (Chet. Soc.), 250; *Commonw. Ch. Surv.* 21. James Hulme was curate in 1671; Visitation list.

⁸⁴ He was born at Whitby in 1805 and apprenticed to a surgeon, but afterwards went to St. Bees College and was ordained in 1828. He died at Scarborough 17 Oct. 1878. He was one of the founders of the Chetham Society, and contributed to it some of its most important publications, as the editions of Gastrell's *Notitia*, the *Lancs. Chantries* and *Stanley Papers*; he was elected F.S.A. in 1843, and received the degree of M.A. from the Archbishop of Canterbury in 1845, Hon. Canon of Manchester in 1849. He was also zealous as a parochial clergyman. He bequeathed his manuscript collections, forty-four volumes and miscellaneous deeds, to the Chetham Library. There is a monument to him at Milnrow; see *Dict. Nat. Biog.*; Fishwick, *Rochdale*, 214; and Sir H. H. Howorth's *Introduct. to Vicars of Rochdale*. (Chet. Soc.).

⁸⁵ Vicar of Trumpington, 1885.

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A school was founded in 1726.⁸⁶ From 1739 till his death in 1786 the master was the celebrated John Collier, known as 'Tim Bobbin,' author of *A View of the Lancashire Dialect*.⁸⁷

There are several modern churches in the township. In connexion with the Church of England, St. Thomas's, Newhey, was built in 1876;⁸⁸ the Bishop of Manchester is patron. There are Wesleyan, Primitive and Free Methodist chapels at Belfield, Milnrow, and Newhey, and a Baptist chapel at Ogden. There is also a Congregational chapel at Milnrow.⁸⁹

HUNDERSFIELD

Hunnordesfeld, 1202; Hunewrthefeld, 1235; Humfridesfeld, Hunneswurthefeld, Hunwurthfeld, 1246; Hunresfeld, Hunderesfeld, 1301; Hunrettesfeld, Hunrifeld, 1306; Honersfeld, 1338; Honoresfeld, 1361.

Wirdehill, Wordehill, 1324.

Todmerdene, 1304.

This ancient township, divided from Spotland by the summit of the high land to the west, occupies the upper part of the Roch valley and also takes in the southerly side of the Calder valley above Todmorden; it has a total area of 16,077 acres. On the east it is bounded by Blackstone Edge and other hills dividing Lancashire from Yorkshire.

It was later divided into four townships;

WARDLEWORTH, a triangular township to the north of Rochdale, having an area of 766 acres. The surface slopes gradually from about 700 ft. on the northern border to less than 400 ft. on the southern.

WUERDLE and **WARDLE**, to the north of Wardleworth, situate in a broad valley between the higher lands on north, west, and east. It has an area of 3,523 acres, Wuerdle having 987, and Wardle 2,536.

BLATCHINWORTH and **CALDERBROOK**, to the east of the last-named township, has an area of 4,781 acres, of which Blatchinworth has 2,221. It occupies the Roch Valley, the hills rising to 1,200 ft. on the west, and 1,550 ft. on the east. It contains the ancient chapelry of Littleborough, a growing town situated in a rich valley.

TODMORDEN and **WALSDEN** occupies the

northern slope of the hills, as the surface descends to the Calder. The scenery is fine.¹ It has an area of 7,007 acres, the respective hamlets having 2,954½ and 4,052½. Todmorden has long been a chapelry.

The principal road is that from Rochdale north-east and north through Littleborough and Todmorden, and thence north-west to Burnley. Over Blackstone Edge is an ancient road into Yorkshire.² By the side of the Todmorden road almost all the way are the Lancashire and Yorkshire Company's railway, and the Rochdale canal. The railway has a tunnel known as Summit tunnel, over a mile and a half long, under the highest part of the hills; there are stations at Smithy Bridge, Littleborough, Walsden, and Todmorden; also one at Portsmouth on the Burnley branch. The same company's line from Rochdale to Bacup crosses Wardleworth, and has a station so named. A large reservoir in Ramsden valley, Walsden, belongs to the Corporation of Rochdale.

At Wardle an agricultural show was established as early as 1839.³

There are remains of ancient iron works in Walsden. Mines and forges are known to have existed in 1235.⁴

Among the celebrities of the district are David Crossley, a Baptist minister, born near Todmorden in 1670 (d. 1744); and James Leach, a musical composer, who was born at Wardle in 1762, and died at Salford in 1798.⁵

The local board district of Wuerdle and Wardle was formed in 1874;⁶ the board had five members. In 1894 the new township of Wardle was constituted; the urban council has nine members. At Littleborough, likewise, a local board of nine members, constituted in 1870,⁷ has been, since 1894, an urban council of twelve members elected by four wards, the district being formed into an independent township. At Littleborough is a Carnegie free library.

WUERDLE AND WARDLE

In Wardle the principal manor-house **MANORS** was **STUBLEY**, the seat of the Holt family,⁸ who, as already shown, acquired a sixth portion of the manor of Rochdale about 1353.⁹ The early history of the family is obscure,¹⁰ but Thomas

⁸⁶ *End. Char. Rep.* 1904, p. 10.

⁸⁷ He was son of John Collier, curate of Eccles, and was baptized at Flixton; he was in youth apprenticed to a weaver, but afterwards became usher at Milnrow, succeeding to the mastership. He died at Milnrow on 14 July 1786, and was buried at Rochdale; see *Dict. Nat. Biog.*; Fishwick, *Lancs. Lib.* 248, &c., and *Rochdale*, 280.

⁸⁸ *Lond. Gaz.* 4 Apr. and 5 May 1876, for district and endowment.

⁸⁹ A chapel, erected for the Countess of Huntingdon's Connexion, was purchased in 1867; Nightingale, *Lancs. Nonconf.* iii, 253.

¹ The valley has been named the 'Happy Valley'; *Manch. Guard. N. and Q.* no. 463. At Inchfield a height of nearly 1,500 ft. is attained.

² In 1291 a toll was allowed to Hugh de Eland and Richard de Radcliffe, who undertook to repair the causeway; *Cal. Pat.* 1281-92, p. 440. An Act for improving the road over Blackstone Edge was passed in 1735; 8 Geo. II, cap. 7.

³ Fishwick, *Rochdale*, 103.

⁴ See *Final Conc.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), i, 69; Fishwick, *op. cit.* 112.

⁵ Notices of them are in *Dict. Nat. Biog.*

⁶ *Lond. Gaz.* 10 July 1874. The district was extended to include part of Butterworth in 1879 by 42 & 43 Vict. cap. 86. Part of the township was added to Rochdale in 1872; 35 & 36 Vict. cap. 49.

⁷ *Lond. Gaz.* 17 May 1870. As in the case of Wuerdle and Wardle, the district was extended in 1879.

⁸ Before the Holts acquired it a Stubley family is supposed to have held it; see Raines in *Notitia Cestr.* ii, 136; Fishwick, *Rochdale*, 423.

⁹ See above, and Assize R. 435, m. 18 d. 8.

¹⁰ A John de Holt of Colne, and another of Read contributed to the subsidy of 1332; *Excib. Lay Subs.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), 85, 86. John son of Hugh del Holt, and Geoffrey del Holt are named in 1333; *Cal. Pat.* 1330-4, p. 498.

Geoffrey son of John del Holt in 1345 purchased lands in Bury which seem afterwards to have been called the 'manor' of Chesham; *Final Conc.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs.

and Ches.), ii, 121. John del Holt of Salfordshire and his sons Geoffrey and Roger were among the defendants in the Pilkingtons' claim for the manor of Bury at Michaelmas 1351; Duchy of Lanc. Assize R. 1, m. 7. John and his son Roger appear in the claim to lands in Tottington in December 1355; *ibid.* R. 4, m. 28 d. John del Holt the elder was a defendant in a Hundersfield and Spotland suit in July 1357; *ibid.* R. 6, m. 8.

Geoffrey son of John del Holt acquired land in Stakehill and Gooden in 1330 and 1357; Agecroft D. no. 336, 338. In 1353, as already stated, he purchased the Lacy of Cromwellbottom share of Rochdale. He was killed at Spotland in 1372, John son of John de Ainsworth and others shooting him with arrows; *Coram Rege* R. 449, Rex m. 1. His brother, Hugh del Holt, about the same time acquired Ashworth.

Robert son of Geoffrey del Holt in 1388 made a settlement of his messuages and lands in Hundersfield, Castleton, Spotland, Middleton, Bury, and Heaton Norris; *Final Conc.* iii, 31, and Duchy of Lanc. Inq.

Holt, who died in 1494, held five messuages, 60 acres of land, &c., called Little Wardle, of the king as Duke of Lancaster, by knight's service and the rent of 4½d.; and fifteen messuages, 60 acres of land, &c., in Hundersfield of the king by knight's service; also lands, &c., in Spotland and Butterworth, by knight's service and a rent of 5s. 6d. He left a son and heir Robert, thirteen years of age, whose wardship was granted to James Stanley, clerk.¹¹ Robert Holt added to the estates by the purchase of Castleton, part of the confiscated Whalley lands, and died in December 1554 holding the manors of Hundersfield, Spotland, and Castleton, with eighty messuages, three water-mills, four fulling-mills, and land, &c., in Hundersfield, Spotland, Bury, Castleton, Butterworth, Middleton, and Tottington; the manors of Hundersfield and Spotland, and other lands there being held of the king and queen by the fortieth part of a knight's fee and the rent of 26s. In 1544 he had made settlements in favour of his nephew Robert Holt the younger and Cecily his wife.¹² The younger Robert succeeded, but died in November 1556, his heir being another Robert, son of William Holt of Whitwell, aged fifty years.¹³ This third Robert died in 1561 holding the same manors, and leaving a son Charles as heir.¹⁴

Charles Holt married Mary, one of the sisters and co-heirs of the Robert Holt who died in 1556,¹⁵ and died in 1592, leaving a son and heir John, fifteen



HOLT of Stubbley.
Argent on a bend engrailed sable three fleurs de lis of the field.

years of age, already married to Winifred daughter of Richard Assheton of Middleton.¹⁶ The estates and tenures appear to have remained without alteration. John Holt¹⁷ died in 1622, leaving, by a second marriage, a son and heir Robert, twenty years of age,¹⁸ who was in possession when the Survey of 1626 was made.¹⁹ About this time Stubbley was abandoned for Castleton, which became the chief seat of the family.²⁰

STUBLEY OLD HALL stands on the south side of the road between Rochdale and Littleborough about three-quarters of a mile from the latter place, and is an interesting two-story house consisting of three wings built round three sides of a court which is open on the east. The principal front of the house faces west, but whether the present disposition of the building is the original one is uncertain, as a good deal of reconstruction and alteration has taken place of which no record seems to have been kept. Stubbley Hall is usually said to have been rebuilt by Robert Holt, c. 1529, but what kind of house stood here before that date is quite conjectural, and the assumption that in the year named Holt rebuilt a timber-framed house in stone and brick seems to be based on no sufficient authority.²¹ The present building is partly timber-framed filled in with brick, and faced on the west side with stone, but the stone and brickwork appears to be much later than 1529, and probably what Holt did was to build a house of timber at that date which assumed its present appearance in the course of the next century.

The plan of the building follows in some respects the H type, but with the wings projecting very slightly in front and very considerably at the back, giving it more the appearance of a quadrangular building with the fourth side missing. There seems to be

p.m. xi, no. 15. The remainders were to John de Holt, younger brother of Robert, to James de Holt, and others, including the Holts of Ashworth.

John del Holt of Chesham died in 1386, leaving a grandson and heir Robert (son of Geoffrey), then sixteen years of age, who married Margaret daughter of Richard de Holland, and was still in possession in 1434-5, when inquiry was ordered; *Dep. Keeper's Rep.* xxxiii, App. 34, 35, 36. The lands were in Kershaw, Little Wardle, Hundersfield, Spotland, and Butterworth; *Lancs. and Ches. Rec.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), ii, 330. The Robert grandson of John may well be the Robert son of Geoffrey of the preceding fine; but as a Geoffrey son of John appears as early as 1330 there were probably two of the name.

During the 15th century the descent is obscure. James Holt, one of the justices of the peace, complained in 1429 that a number of persons had broken his close at Castleton; *Pal. of Lanc. Plea R.* 2, m. 1, 4, 6b.

Christopher and Geoffrey del Holt were tenants of Tottington in 1443; *W. Farrer, Clitheroe Ct. R.* 507. James son of Ralph Holt of Bury had a dispute with Richard son of Christopher Holt of Hundersfield in 1465; *Pal. of Lanc. Writs Proton.* file 6 Edw. IV, b.

According to the pedigree of 1664 the succession was: John — a. Geoffrey — a. Robert — s. Christopher — s. Thomas; *Dugdale, Visit.* (Chet. Soc.), 151.

¹¹ *Duchy of Lanc. Inq. p.m.* iii, no. 46.
¹² *Ibid.* x, no. 48; there was a remainder to Alan Holt, younger brother of Robert Holt the elder.

Robert Holt's will is printed in *Piccope's Wills* (Chet. Soc.), ii, 14-16.

In 1533 the herald recorded the arms of the family, but 'Robert Holt of Stubbley married an old woman by whom he had no issue, and therefore he would not have her name entered'; *Visit.* of 1533 (Chet. Soc.), 47.

The rent of 26s. would include the 20s. due for the sixth part of the manor of Rochdale.

¹³ *Duchy of Lanc. Inq. p.m.* x, no. 7. Alan Holt must have died without male issue, as William Holt of Whitwell was next in remainder. Robert Holt made a feoffment of the third part of all his messuages, &c., in Stubbley, Hundersfield, Naden, Spotland, Chesham, Bury, Middleton, Butterworth, and Castleton, for the benefit of his wife Cecily, and to provide for the portions of his daughters Alice (wife of John son of Thomas Greenhalgh), Agnes, Mary, Elizabeth, and Dorothy.

The will of Robert Holt (1556) is printed in *Piccope's Wills*, ii, 87-90.

Whitwell, or Whitwall, is in Walmersley, near Bury.

¹⁴ *Duchy of Lanc. Inq. p.m.* xi, no. 15. In the pedigree above quoted William, the father of Robert, is called son of John, younger brother of Christopher. The fine of 1388 is referred to in this inquisition. For Robert Holt's will see *Piccope's Wills*, ii, 171-4.

¹⁵ See the erroneous pedigree recorded in 1567; *Visit.* (Chet. Soc.), 13.

¹⁶ *Duchy of Lanc. Inq. p.m.* xvi, no. 55; Charles Holt had just before his death settled his estates on his son John, with remainder to his own brother Francis and his uncle Charles.

John Holt, in conjunction with Henry Tonge and Mary his wife, made a settlement of the manors of Naden, Chesham, &c., in 1601; *Pal. of Lanc. Feet of F.* bdle. 63, m. 177.

¹⁷ A pedigree was recorded in 1613 (*Visit.* Chet. Soc. 91), when John's wife was Dorothy Banastre.

¹⁸ *Lancs. Inq. p.m.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), iii, 334-8.

¹⁹ *Raines MSS.* (Chet. Lib.), xxi, 89; the area is given as 117 acres. Robert Holt also had 'True Love Husted' under a charter to Geoffrey Holt, dated 1470; a rent of 12d. was payable; *ibid.* 83. Also further lands in Little Wardle; *ibid.* 95, 98. A moiety of Little Wardle had belonged to Whalley Abbey, having been granted by Henry son of Peter, son of Orm de Wardle; a rent of 12d. was due to the chief lord of Liversedge; *Whalley Coucher* (Chet. Soc.), i, 156, 157; see also iii, 783. A feoffment of messuages, &c., in Little Wardle was made by Charles Holt in 1571; *Pal. of Lanc. Feet of F.* bdle. 33, m. 10.

²⁰ *Raines in Notitia Cestr.* ii, 126. Robert Holt acquired the manor of Marland from the Radcliffes of Langley.

²¹ 'This house appears to have been built in the reign of Henry VIII by Robert Holt Esq. and . . . is the first specimen within the compass of our work of a stone or brick house with a centre and two wings only.' Whitaker, *Hist. of Whalley* (3rd ed. 1818), 453. Later he says: 'The first instance of an entire hall-house of brick and stone is Stubbley near Rochdale, unquestionably of that period' (i.e. Henry VIII).

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no evidence that the quadrangular plan ever obtained, although the house is said to have formerly been larger than at present. The west or central wing contained the hall, and the kitchen and offices appear to have been to the north; but, the house being now divided into several dwellings and parts used for other purposes, the original distinctions and arrangements are lost. The timber construction of the west and north wings is, however, still visible on the outside at the back, the oak posts showing in the walls, and in the interior the old roof of the hall can be seen in the upper rooms of the west wing. The hall would be about 36 ft. long by 23 ft. wide, but is now divided into two rooms, one of which, belonging to a cottage, retains its tall 17th-century stone-mullioned six-light window; but the other, being the dining-room of a residence which occupies the whole of the south portion of the house, has been modernized. In 1626 Stubble Hall was described as 'an ancient mansion with stables, barns, dovecotes, and water-mill,'²² but whether the present stone and brick fronts were then in existence does not appear. The whole of the west front, including the gable ends of the north and south wings, is faced in stone, and all the roofs have stone slates. The north wing being wider than the south has a loftier and wider gable, which retains, along with the north end of the hall, its original six-light mullioned windows, some of which still keep their thick leaded diamond quarries. The whole of the south end of the front has been modernized, new windows having been inserted, and the place of the former great double transomed window to the hall, which went up to the eaves, is taken by two smaller windows necessitated by the introduction of a floor in the hall. The gables are plain without coping. The rest of the exterior is faced with hand-made 2½ in. bricks which have gone a good colour, the walling at the back being a filling in between the oak posts of the old principals. The north wing has two fine stone chimneys set in the inner angles of two further projecting short wings on that side, one of the chimneys being no doubt that to the kitchen, but in the present altered condition of the building the original arrangement cannot easily be traced. At the back (east side) the north wing projects 37 ft., and the south wing only 30 ft., besides being lower and narrower, but a later addition has been recently built against it on the north side, increasing its width. The south side of the south wing is built of brick on a stone base, but the evidence of the walling suggests that the whole of this end of the building has been reconstructed and may formerly have been much larger. There was originally a domestic chapel in Stubble Hall, and this is likely to have been situated at the east end of the south wing, though its position is now lost. Writing at the end of the 18th century the Rev. T. D. Whitaker stated that the

house then contained 'much carving in wood, particularly a rich and beautiful screen betwixt the hall and parlour, with a number of crests, cyphers, and cognizances belonging to the Holts and other neighbouring families.' These, however, have now all disappeared, and the interior of the building has little architectural interest. In the will of Robert Holt, who died in 1561, is an inventory of goods at Stubble Hall in which the following rooms and places are mentioned:—

The great chamber.
My lord's chamber.
The Chappel chamber.
The inner chamber.
The new parlour.
The closet.
The hall.
The inner parlour.
The old parlour.
Sr Myghell's chamber.
The chamber without.

'Syling timber' is also twice referred to.

Robert Holt, at the outbreak of the Civil War, under the influence of the Earl of Derby, joined the king's forces, and appears to have served in North Wales; in 1645 he surrendered, took the National Covenant and Negative Oath, and compounded, his fine being £1,150.²³ A pedigree was recorded in 1664.²⁴ Robert died in 1673, leaving a younger son James to succeed him,²⁵ and James died in 1712, when his four daughters became co-heirs. They were: Frances wife of James Winstanley; Elizabeth wife of William Cavendish; Isabella wife of Delaval Dutton and afterwards of Sir William Parsons; and Mary wife of Samuel Chetham of Turton. The last-named purchased the portions of the other three sisters, as well as the widow's jointure, and thus acquired the whole estate. He improved Castleton Hall, which became the most important house in the parish, and died in 1744 without issue, having made his brother Humphrey his heir.

By the dispositions of Humphrey Chetham, who died also without issue in 1749, the Castleton estate were to go to cousins—Edward Chetham of Nuthurst, and James Chetham of Smedley, both of whom died unmarried—with remainder to James Winstanley, eldest son of the above-mentioned James and Frances. They thus came into the possession of the Winstanleys, but have been sold. About 1850 Castleton Hall was purchased by James Schofield of Heybrook.²⁶

Part of *HAWORTH*, now spelt Howarth, was given to Stanlaw Abbey.²⁷ The place gave a surname to its possessors; ²⁸ the last of the family was Dr. Radcliffe Howarth, who died in 1768. The estate

²² Survey of 1626, quoted in Fishwick's *Rochdale*.

²³ *Roy. Comp. Papers* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), iii, 257. A will of Robert Holt's, made in 1654, is among the Clowes D. 25.

²⁴ Dugdale, *Visit.* 151.

²⁵ James Holt in 1677 made a settlement of his manors of Naden and Chesham and lands in Hundersfield, &c.; Pal. of Lanc. Feet of F. bdlc. 198, m. 92.

²⁶ The later descents have been taken from Fishwick, *Rochdale*, where a full account may be seen (pp. 427-9, 308-10).

For the Chethams of Turton and Castleton see E. Axon's *Chetham Gen.* (Chet. Soc. new ser.), 53-4, 63. Among the Clowes D. is a copy of Humphrey Chetham's will.

²⁷ Two oxgangs in Haworth were part of the grant by Henry de Wardle recorded in a previous note; see *Whalley Coucher*, i, 157-8. The abbey also received land called Cho in Wardle from Award son of Swain de Wardle, and Swain son of Ailsi de Salesbury confirmed this grant by his freeman Award; *ibid.* i, 159-60.

²⁸ See Fishwick, *op. cit.* 413-22, where there is a pedigree. Abstracts of the Haworth or Howarth D. are transcribed in Raines MSS. (Chet. Lib.), xi, 2-112. A share in the two oxgangs in Haworth was granted to the monks of Stanlaw, a rent of 2s. being payable to the chief lord; *Whalley Coucher*, i, 156. Many members of the family are named in the charters in the same work. The foul life of Thomas Haworth, who died about 1460, led to the censures of the Church and to doubts about the succession, but a son Edmund acquired the estate. Thomas

was then sold to the Entwistles of Foxholes, who also acquired the estate called Little Howarth.²⁹ *HAMER*



HOWARTH of Howarth. *Azure a bend between two harts' heads couped or.*



HAMER of Hamer. *Sable a bend or between two lions rampant argent.*

likewise gave a surname to a wide-spreading family.³⁰ Hamer Hall, a large red brick 18th-century building, was pulled down in 1908. Dearnley,³¹ Hades,³²

son of William Haworth, and Hugh and Edmund his sons, are mentioned in the Plea Rolls of 1444-8; Pal. of Lanc. Plea R. 8, m. 9; 12, m. 23^b, 3, 29^b.

Edmund Haworth died in 1554-5 holding ten messuages, &c., in Hundersfield of Sir Henry Savile in socage, by a rent of 5s. 10d.; also an acre of the king and queen in socage. His heir was his grandson Robert (son of Robert), aged twenty-three years; Duchy of Lanc. Inq. p.m. x, no. 6. Soon afterwards James and Arthur Haworth acquired a messuage in Hundersfield from Robert Haworth; Margaret Haworth, widow, is mentioned in the fine; Pal. of Lanc. Feet of F. bdlc. 16, m. 89. Robert Haworth occurs among the freeholders in 1580; *ibid.* bdlc. 42, m. 72. His son Edmund recorded a pedigree in 1613; *Visit.* (Chet. Soc.), 3.

In 1626 Robert Haworth son of Edmund held 299 acres, paying a rent of 5s. 10d. to the Savile representatives, and 6d. to the king; Surv. in Raines MSS. xxi, 90. His father Edmund had died the year before, holding Haworth Hall, &c., the acre called Birchamhead in Hundersfield, lands called Gooseholme, Arthur-gapp, and Holcroft in Rochdale, and messuages in Boochey; also Clegg Hall, &c., in Butterworth. Robert died in 1639 at Haworth, leaving a son and heir of the same name, three years old; Duchy of Lanc. Inq. p.m. xxvii, no. 66. The estate, however, passed to Robert's brother, Theophilus Haworth, M.D., who recorded a short pedigree in 1664, he being then fifty and his son Henry eleven years of age; Dugdale, *Visit.* 156. Henry's sons Henry and Radcliffe died unmarried in 1764 and 1768 respectively; Fishwick, op. cit. 421.

²⁹ See Fishwick, op. cit. 419. William Butterworth held 48 acres in 1626, paying a rent of 14d. to Holt; Surv. ut sup. 91.

³⁰ See Fishwick, op. cit. 395-407, with pedigrees.

The will of Henry Hamer of Hamer, 1573, is printed in Piccope's *Wills*, ii, 204-5; he mentions his sons Giles and Ellis, and bequeathed money for the repair of Hamer Mill Bridge and Heybrook Bridge. Ellis Hamer had sons Edmund and Samuel; Fishwick, loc. cit.

Edmund Hamer of Hamer Hall died in 1598 holding messuages, water-mill, &c.; his son and heir Samuel was only three

years of age. A fourth part of the estate was held of John Holt (a minor in the queen's custody) by the fortieth part of a knight's fee and a rent of 7³/₄d.; the remainder of Sir John Byron by the twentieth part of a knight's fee and a rent of 22d.; Duchy of Lanc. Inq. p.m. xvii, no. 17. Samuel Hamer was in possession in 1626; Surv. ut sup. 83. In 1631 he paid £10 for declining knighthood; *Misc.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), i, 216. The estate remained in the Hamer family till 1810, when it was sold to the Entwistles; Fishwick, op. cit. 400.

In 1626 Ralph Hamer, grandson of Ralph, held 30 acres in Wardle, paying a rent of 13³/₄d. to Savile; Surv. ut sup. 91.

³¹ The surname occurs in the 14th century; thus Roger de Dearnley contributed to the subsidy of 1332; *Exch. Lay Subs.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), 34. At Michaelmas 1351 Richard son of William de Bury did not prosecute his suit against John del Dearnley and others respecting a tenement in Hundersfield; Duchy of Lanc. Assize R. 1, m. 5d. In 1360 Adam de Dearnley was a plaintiff, John de Dearnley being one of his pledges; *ibid.* R. 8, m. 4d.; see also *Dep. Keeper's Rep.* xxxii, App. 342.

In 1400 it was stated that Henry de Dearnley had been outlawed in 1372 at the suit of Henry de Haworth for trespass, and that his land in Hundersfield had passed into the hands of the Ashton family; Pal. of Lanc. Misc. 1/9, m. 87-8; *Dep. Keeper's Rep.* xl, App. 536.

Sir John de Ashton held land in Wardle in 1429 of James de Buckley, by a rent of 1s. 2d.; *Lanc. Inq. p.m.* (Chet. Soc.), ii, 22. A later Sir John, 1507, held of Thomas Buckley by the same rent; *ibid.* ii, 138. Sir Thomas Ashton of Ashton died in 1514 holding lands in Hundersfield of the heirs of James de Buckley in socage; Duchy of Lanc. Inq. p.m. iv, no. 80.

In 1444 Roger Whitehead and Margaret his wife, together with Ellen Dearnley, recovered a moiety of two messuages, 40 acres of land, &c., in Hundersfield and Spotland, which Roger Dearnley had given to John Dearnley and his issue, and which after the death of John's son Geoffrey should descend to Margaret and Ellen, daughters of Geoffrey; Pal. of Lanc. Plea R. 6, m. 12. The same plaintiffs claimed the other moiety against Alexander son of Roger Butterworth; he replied that there was another daughter of Geof-

Marled Earth,³³ Crook,³⁴ and Shaw³⁵ are other estates in Wardle of some interest.

Rodes in Wardle belonged to the Hospitallers.³⁶

In 1626 the common lands in Wardle were reckoned at 880 acres.³⁷ There were also 358 acres of copyhold.

The principal landowners in 1788 were Messrs. Entwisle and Sedgwick, who together contributed a fourth part of the land tax.³⁸

WARDLEWORTH

In Wardleworth the principal estate appears to have been *BUCKLEY*. It was owned by a family or families surnamed after it.³⁹ A Geoffrey de Buckley, living about 1300, made various grants⁴⁰ of Buckley and other lands in Hundersfield, and in 1309 surrendered to Adam son of Richard son of John de Hulton and Christiana his wife, the daughter

frey, viz. Mary, still living at Newcastle on Tyne, but they said she had died at Chadderton in 1442; *ibid.* m. 12b. The estate was claimed as late as 1580 by a Roger Dearnley against Arthur Whitehead; see Fishwick, op. cit. 422 (quoting Duchy of Lanc. Plead. Eliz. lxxxi, D. 7).

There are a number of fines respecting Arthur Whitehead's estate. He was in 1589 joined with Edmund his son and heir apparent respecting eight messuages, &c., in Hundersfield; Pal. of Lanc. Feet of F. bdlc. 51, m. 178. Edmund Whitehead held 45 acres in Wardle in 1626; Surv. ut sup. 95. This was no doubt the son of Edmund Whitehead who died in 1621 holding a messuage in 'Hastings' in Hundersfield of the king as of his manor of Rochdale by a rent of 1d.; *Lancs. Inq. p.m.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), ii, 254.

³² James Fielden of the Hades occurs in 1626; Surv. ut sup. 96. See Fishwick, op. cit. 431.

³³ *Ibid.* 429-31.

³⁴ John Butterworth of Turnagh held the Crook in 1626; Surv. ut sup. 98. The Butterworths of Belfield, however, seem to have had most of the land; see Fishwick, op. cit. 433-35. Edward Butterworth of Belfield in 1626 held 120 acres called Starring, paying 21d. to Savile and 6d. to Holt; also 225 acres called the Steed; Surv. 89, 95.

³⁵ In early times it appears to have given a surname to its owners; cf. Michael de la Shaw in the Buckley charters below. Alexander Scholefield held it in 1626; Surv. 91. See the account of Tong End in Spotland.

³⁶ Two messuages &c. there were about 1540 held by the heir of Richard Butterworth, by a rent of 12d.; Kuerden MSS. v, fol. 84.

³⁷ Manor Surv. 102.

³⁸ Land Tax Ret. at Preston.

³⁹ Geoffrey de Buckley made a grant to Stanlaw Abbey early in the 13th century; he speaks of Geoffrey, Dean of Whalley, as his patron; *Whalley Couch.* i, 142. Robert the brother of Geoffrey also occurs; *ibid.* ii, 608. A Geoffrey de Buckley is styled 'dominus' about 1260; *ibid.* ii, 609. About 1270 Geoffrey son of Geoffrey de Buckley was one of the men of Nicholas son of Michael de Wardle; *ibid.* i, 157.

⁴⁰ Abstracts of the charters are contained in Add. MS. 32107, no. 396, &c.

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of Geoffrey, his manor of Hundersfield.⁴¹ Adam appears to have taken the surname of Buckley, and his son John, living in 1392,⁴² was succeeded by Robert his son,⁴³ and the descent of the estate is fairly clear⁴⁴ down to Edward Buckley, who in 1786 sold it to Robert Entwisle of Foxholes,



BUCKLEY of Buckley.
Sable a chevron between three bulls' heads cabossed argent.

⁴¹ Add. MS. 32107 no. 432; Geoffrey de Buckley to Randle son of Henry de Stott, part of Middlecliff at a rent of 14d.; Robert de Buckley was a witness, so that this deed may be one of the earlier Geoffrey's. In 1281 Geoffrey gave to Adam de Hulton for life all his lands in Buckley, together with an eighth part of the mill, at a rent of 1 mark; no. 464. In 1296 he gave a third part of three-fourths of Buckley mill to Michael de la Shaw; no. 443, 422. The grants to Adam de Hulton (no. 436, 461, 434) included the services of Henry de Haworth, John de Holden, Michael de la Shaw, and Alexander de Henesape, for lands in Hundersfield and Castleton.

Adam de Hulton received other grants, as of Woldurth or Worldsworth, the mill, &c.; see *ibid.* no. 448, 446, 447, 459, 445, 427, 425.

⁴² John son of Adam de Buckley, as early as 1335, released to his brother Robert all claim on the latter's tenement in the hamlet of Wardle in the vill of Hundersfield; *ibid.* no. 421. A tripartite agreement was made in 1369 between (1) Geoffrey de Buckley, (2) John de Buckley and others, and (3) John the son of Geoffrey, who was a minor, concerning the release of the last-named from all claims arising out of the death of Thomas son of William de Butterworth; no. 440. Robert son of Adam de Buckley in 1373 made a grant of lands in Butterworth; John de Buckley was a witness; Towneley MS. GG, no. 565. In 1392 John son of Adam de Buckley gave lands to his son Thomas; Add. MS. 32107, no. 460. Thomas son of John gave a quittance to Robert his brother (no. 439); Robert de Buckley the elder was a witness. From another charter it appears that Robert was the elder brother; no. 473.

⁴³ In 1393 the same Thomas de Buckley enfeoffed Roger de Clegg, chaplain, of all his lands in Hundersfield, and four years later the feeoffee gave them to Robert son of John de Buckley; no. 449, 396. About the same time Robert made a settlement of Buckley and its appurtenances, with remainder to John his son and his issue by Alice daughter of Roger de Wolfenden, and a further remainder to Robert de Buckley; no. 444. Geoffrey de Buckley was a witness. See also no. 430-1 (1401-3).

Thomas de Buckley had a son Robert; no. 452, 423.

After the death of Robert de Buckley his widow Alice married Henry de Dearnley, an outlaw, whereupon the escheator took the estate into the king's hands, or, at least, the widow's third part. Alice died in Sept. 1423, and John de Buckley, son of Robert, in Oct. 1429, leaving a son and heir James; *ibid.* no. 496; Towneley MS. DD, no. 1483; *Dep. Keeper's Rep.* xl, App. 536. The lands were held of Sir Thomas Savile in socage.

In 1421 licence was granted to Randle de Buckley and Katherine his wife for

whose descendants have retained it.⁴⁵ Fieldhouse, part of the Buckley lands,^{45a} was the scene of a great demonstration in 1447, hostile, it would seem, to Ralph Holt. Some sixty persons, led by Richard and Geoffrey Belfield and Gilbert Butterworth, marched to the place and fixed their white banner there 'with much noise and blowing of horns.'^{45b}

FOXHOLES itself appears to have been originally part of the Buckley estate,⁴⁶ but early in the 16th

an oratory; Add. MS. 32107, no. 442.

⁴⁴ In 1460 James son and heir of John Buckley made a feoffment of all his lands in Hundersfield and Spotland, and in 1476 granted messuages called Stockrode in Hundersfield to his son Robert; *ibid.* no. 454, 492.

It is at this point that the descent is obscure. The next in possession was Thomas Buckley, probably the son of Alice widow of James Buckley, named in an undated acknowledgement for 32 marks; *ibid.* no. 481. Thomas appears in several deeds of the time of Henry VII (no. 474, 468, 476), and in 1511 made a grant to James his son and heir apparent; no. 478. It was probably another James Buckley who in 1492 gave his son John, for life, a close of land at the east end of the vill of Rochdale, which he had received from Maud Buckley; no. 453. James Buckley of Buckley arranged for the marriage of his daughter Katherine in 1512, and appears to have been in possession of the family lands; see no. 406, 489, 433. He was living in 1539, when he delivered up a box containing thirty-two pieces of evidence; no. 403.

The next to appear is Thomas Buckley, probably the Thomas who in 1521 procured a divorce from Agnes Shepherd; no. 472. A little later, in 1528, a Henry Buckley was divorced from Isabel Haworth, to whom he had been contracted in childhood; no. 488. It appears that Thomas Buckley was in possession in 1541 (no. 490, 475); in conjunction with Robert his son and heir apparent he made a lease of the Stockrode in 1557 to his brother Hugh and Katherine his wife, and in 1559 he assigned to Ellen widow of Edmund Cowper a dower rent of 40s. out of lands called Hastley in Buckley; no. 452, 466. Thomas Buckley in 1569 made a settlement of his manor of Buckley and lands in Hundersfield, Spotland, and Butterworth, with remainder to his sons Robert, Arthur, James, Anthony, and Francis; their surname is given as Buckley *alias* Haworth, so that they were probably illegitimate; Pal. of Lanc. Feet of F. bde. 31, m. 194.

Robert Buckley died in 1576, holding the manor of Buckley, and messuages, &c., in Hundersfield of Robert Savile in socage by a rent of 2s. 11d.; also holding a close called Dicon Meadow in Hundersfield of the queen as of her manor of Rochdale in socage by a rent of 2s. Thomas the son and heir was twenty-three years of age; Duchy of Lanc. Inq. p.m. xii, no. 13. Thomas Buckley died in 1588 holding the same manor and lands, together with Fisher Field and Green Intake in Spotland, held of Charles Holt by rents of 3s. 2d. and 6d.; Robert his son and heir was ten years of age; *ibid.* xv, no. 54; xvi, no. 47.

Robert Buckley died in 1598, leaving a brother and heir named Abel, aged twenty;

ibid. xvii, no. 58. In addition to the lands previously named he held a capital messuage, &c., called Fieldhouse in Hundersfield, formerly the inheritance of Henry Holt, held of John Byron in socage by a rent of 3s.

Abel Buckley made a settlement of the manor of Buckley and various lands in 1601; Pal. of Lanc. Feet of F. bde. 63, m. 332. He held the manor and 291 acres of land in 1626, paying a rent of 3s. 10d. to Savile and 2s. to the king for Ditton (or Diccon) Mead; Surv. ut sup. 78. He died in Oct. 1637 holding the family estates, together with a messuage in Butterworth formerly belonging to the Hospitalers, another in Saddleworth, and others in Todmorden. John his son and heir was twenty-three years of age; Duchy of Lanc. Inq. p.m. xxvii, no. 67. John Buckley recorded a pedigree in 1665, his son Abel being then twenty-five years old; Dugdale, *Vitin.* 60.

⁴⁵ Abel Buckley had a son Thomas, who died in 1697, his daughter Anne's son, Thomas Foster, being his heir; but a brother, William Buckley, who died about 1730, succeeded. Thomas Foster then inherited Buckley, and took the local surname. His son Edward was the vendor; see Fishwick, *Rochdale*, 393, 397 (where there is a pedigree), and the account of Skerton.

^{45a} Many Fieldhouse deeds are contained in the Buckley charters in Add. MS. 32107. The earliest is dated 1369, being a grant of it by Robert del Shore, chaplain, to William son of Thomas del Stock (or Slack), with remainder to the grantor's mother, Margaret; no. 450. Alice Holt of Fieldhouse, widow of John Holt, granted it to her son Alan Holt in 1506; no. 477. Henry Holt, brother of Alan, was in possession in 1507 (no. 415) and, dying in or before 1526, left a daughter Grace, about whose inheritance there was some disputing; nos. 398, 407, 412, 402, 414, 417, 418, 456. Grace married Thomas Buckley, who died in 1588, and the above-named Robert was her son, as appears by the inq. p.m. of Thomas. Robert Holt of Fieldhouse occurs in 1581; no. 494.

^{45b} Pal. of Lanc. Plea R. 11, m. 32. In a dispute in 1448 between William and Alice Stock concerning a box of charters, the following pedigree was alleged: Thomas —s. William —s. Henry (died 1446) —s. John —dau. Alice; *ibid.* m. 166.

⁴⁶ To Robert son of John de Buckley the trustee in 1397 granted the parcels of land called Foxholes and 'Woodfulrode' in Hundersfield and Tong Moss in Spotland; Add. MS. 32107, no. 483. A year later Thomas son of John de Buckley released to Robert his son (? brother) all his claim to messuages, &c., in 'Wolfulrode,' Foxholes, and Stockrode; no. 452. In 1400 John son of Robert de Buckley granted the Foxholes and 'Wolfenhole' to Thomas Dickson and his heirs at the rent of a grain of pepper for twenty-four years and 40s. afterwards; no. 451.

century was held by the Entwisle family.⁴⁷ At the Survey in 1626 it was stated that the 78 acres then held by Richard son of Richard Entwisle had formerly been the lands of Shipwalbottom, and later of Henry de Bradshaw, whose daughter married the ancestor of Entwisle; another moiety descended to John Holden, and was in 1626 the inheritance of Charles Nuttall, who had the deeds, and held 52 acres in Wardleworth.⁴⁸ The most prominent member of the family was John Entwisle, Recorder of Liverpool in 1662, and an active county magistrate;⁴⁹ his granddaughter Ellen married John Markland of Wigan, and her grandson, who eventually succeeded to the estates, assumed the name and arms of Entwisle in 1787; from him Foxholes, augmented by many purchases, has descended to the present owner, Mr. John Bertin Norreys Entwisle.⁵⁰ The house was built in 1792 on the site of the old hall.

The abbey of Whalley had 2 oxgangs of land in Wardleworth.⁵¹

In 1626 the copyhold land was 65 acres.



ENTWISLE of Foxholes. *Argent on a bend engrailed sable three molets of the field.*

⁴⁷ In an indenture of — Hen. VII William Entwisle and Janet his wife agreed with Thomas Buckley and James his son as to the division of lands called Foxholes; Janet was to have a close called Summerhey, while the Buckleys were to have some other closes; *ibid.* no. 474. Janet, therefore, was probably the heir of the Thomas Dickson of 1400.

Edmund Entwisle contributed to the subsidy in 1523; Fishwick, *op. cit.* 37. Robert Entwisle died in Aug. 1574, leaving as heir his eldest son Richard; to Jane his wife and Richard he bequeathed a little Bible, 'they to see the same occupied every Sabbath day when there is no sermons or sacraments in ministering, and in the week day my will and mind is that my poorest kinsfolks which are not able to buy a Bible shall have the same lent unto them'; Piccoppe, *Wills*, ii. 221-3. Richard Entwisle died in 1621 holding in Wardleworth, Spotland, and Hundersfield of Sir John Byron in socage, by a rent of 4s., also lands in Worsley. Richard his son and heir was thirty-four years old; *Lancs. Inq. p.m.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), ii. 241.

⁴⁸ *Surv. ut sup.* 80. In 1631 Richard Entwisle paid £10 on refusing knight-hood; *Misc.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), i. 215. He died in 1645.

⁴⁹ He recorded a pedigree in 1665; Dugdale, *Visit.* 104. For some notices of his doings with letters see *Hist. MSS. Com. Rep.* xiv, App. iv, 101, 135, &c.; O. Heywood, *Diaries*, ii. 90.

⁵⁰ See the pedigree and account of the family in Fishwick, *Rochdale*, 409-13.

⁵¹ They were given by Gilbert de Notton to Stanlaw Abbey, together with two oxgangs in Healey; *Whalley Couch.* ii, 623, 626, 627; iii, 680.

⁵² Land Tax Ret. at Preston.

⁵³ See the account of Ogden in Butterworth.

Quenilda de Sladen in 1246 recovered half an oxgang in Hundersfield against Matthew son of Adam, Henry son of Ivo, and Agnes his mother; *Assize R.* 404, m. 4 d.

⁵⁴ *Whalley Couch.* ii, 631; Fishwick, *Rochdale*, 437-9. Maud widow of Richard son of Henry son of Ivo in 1291 and later claimed dower in Hundersfield against Roger de Lightollers for 1 oxgang, Richard son of Roger de Lightollers for 2 oxgangs, and other tenants of 5½ oxgangs in all; *De Banco R.* 110, m. 48 d.; 167, m. 22 d. Roger de Lightollers claimed a messuage, oxgang, &c., against Andrew son of Patrick de Hundersfield in 1296; *ibid.* R. 114, m. 85.

Roger de Lightollers was plaintiff in 1301 respecting lands in Hundersfield; against Thomas and Adam sons of Adam Dudeman and Richard son of Geoffrey de Turnagh he failed, but recovered against Andrew son of Patrick de Hundersfield and Henry son of Roger de Butterworth; *Assize R.* 1321, m. 8. In 1324 Agnes widow of Henry son of Richard de Hundersfield made a claim for land against William de Lightollers, and Richard son of Roger de Lightollers; *De Banco R.* 250, m. 7.

Roger Lightollers and Joan his wife were defendants in 1444; *Pal. of Lanc. Plea R.* 6, m. 3.

Lightollers became the property of the Kirshaws of Town House, and was divided between Newall and Chadwick. One half was acquired by the Halliwells of Pike House. In 1626 Jordan Chadwick (of Healey) held 32 acres in Lightollers and lands in Denehurst and Anningden; those in the first-named place were held by virtue of a grant of William de Lightollers to Roger his son, and a rent of 3s. 8d. was payable to Savile, while those in Denehurst were held by a grant of Hugh de Eland's in 1292, a rent of 8d. being due; *Surv. ut sup.* 107.

⁵⁵ The evidences of this family were transcribed by Canon Raines, who was connected with them by marriage; Raines MSS. (Chet. Lib.), iv.

In 1522 Thomas Halliwell released to James his father and John his brother all his actions relating to the Ealees, then held by James; *Add. MS.* 32107, no. 470. Pike House was acquired in 1561 from

The land tax returns of 1788 show that Wardleworth was very much subdivided; John Entwisle was the principal owner, contributing about a sixth part of the sum collected.⁵²

BLATCHINWORTH AND CALDERBROOK

In this part of Hundersfield there were a number of ancient estates, some of which, as Sladen⁵³ and Lightollers,⁵⁴ gave surnames to the proprietors; but the most prominent is a comparatively recent one, that of *PIKE HOUSE*, near Littleborough, the possession of the Halliwells and their successors from the latter part of the 16th century.⁵⁵ The present owner is Captain Clement Robert Nuttall Beswicke-Royds. Pike House stands on high ground on the lower slope of Blackstone Edge, about half a mile north-east of Littleborough, facing south-west. It is a stone-built house of two stories, with attics, erected about 1608-9 in the place of an older building, but greatly altered and modernized a hundred years later, when the



HALLIWELL of Pike House. *Argent on a bend gules three antelopes of the field attired or.*

the Earl of Derby by John and James Halliwell, the latter being of Ealees, which is at the east end of Littleborough; see *Pal. of Lanc. Feet of F. bdl.* 25, m. 29, 25, from which it appears that the earl sold his Hundersfield lands at that time. In 1564 James Halliwell acquired a messuage and lands from James son of Roger Chadwick; *ibid.* bdl. 26, m. 193; this was perhaps the moiety of Lightollers, but in 1578 John Halliwell and James (son of James) Halliwell of Ealees purchased a messuage, &c., from Richard Lightollers and Margaret his wife; *ibid.* bdl. 40, m. 60. James Halliwell acquired a messuage in Hundersfield from Arthur Whitehead in 1585; *ibid.* bdl. 47, m. 77. John Halliwell acquired another in 1593 from John Sale; *ibid.* bdl. 55, m. 4.

John son of James Halliwell died in 1619 holding lands, &c., in Pike House and Lightollers of Sir John Byron in socage by 10s. d. rent, in Hundersfield of Sir John Byron and John Holt, in Butterworth also of Sir John Byron, in Buersill of the Earl of Derby as of his manor of Woolton, in Ditton near Widnes, and elsewhere. James his son and heir was thirty years of age; *Lancs. Inq. p.m.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), ii, 165-6.

In 1626 James Halliwell held Ealees and 104 acres of land. John Butterworth of Littleborough held 26 acres in Ealees; *Surv. ut sup.* 104, 108.

James Halliwell was summoned to attend the Visitation of 1664, but it appears that he died in 1661; Dugdale *Visit.* q.v.

The estate descended to John Halliwell, who died in 1771, when he was succeeded by Robert Beswicke, whose grandmother was Mary Halliwell, sister of the last John Halliwell; Robert's grandson, John Halliwell Beswicke, died in 1842, and his daughter and heiress, Mary Alice Gibson, married Capt. Clement Robert Nuttall Royds, who has assumed the name Beswicke before Royds; see Fishwick, *Rochdale*, 440-1, and Raines MSS. iii, 62, for an account of the Beswicke family.

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present ashlar front with large sash windows was added, and many alterations made in the interior. The original 17th-century house had three gables on each front facing north and south, the roofs running through from front to back, and these still show on the north side, where the elevation is not much changed. The old roofs, which are covered with stone slates, still remain behind the high 18th-century parapet on the principal front. The north side preserves also many of the original 17th-century mullioned and transomed windows and a large projecting chimney, though the east gable has been replaced and other changes have taken place. Over one of the later windows is the date 1704, probably the year when the alterations were carried out and the new front added. The refacing of the front elevation, which is 65 ft. in length, appears to have been done at two different times, the centre portion and east end being recased first and the west gable at a later date, the

wall above the roof, is very ugly. The windows retain their original wood bars. Internally the house preserves traces of its 17th-century plan, though most of the arrangements and fittings belong to the 18th-century remodelling. The light oak panelling of the dining-room is exceedingly good, and of simple and dignified detail. The staircase, which has carved oak balusters and square newels, and the breakfast-room fireplace are also good examples of 18th-century work. In the kitchen is a wide open fireplace under a low arch, and another fireplace, the great chimney of which is such a noticeable feature of the north elevation, seems to have originally belonged to the entrance hall, which occupies the middle portion of the ground floor. The windows on each side of the front door contain modern heraldic glass, and the large staircase window is also filled with heraldic and pictorial glass illustrating the history of the families connected with the house. The principal rooms on the first floor



PIKE HOUSE, LITTLEBOROUGH

stonework being plainer and the windows less in height. The three upper middle windows have thin pilaster strips on either side, breaking round the string-course above, and the door is flanked by columns and has a panel with a blank shield and cornice above, but apart from this the elevation is quite plain and without architectural distinction. The height of the parapet, determined by the gables behind, is excessive, and viewed from the ends, where it shows as a screen

open from a corridor running the whole length of the building, and there is a low single-story addition at the west end. Originally the road ran much nearer the east end of the building, and two stone piers in front of the house mark the entrance to a former flower garden.

SHORE was anciently in part a possession of the Hospitallers; it gave a name to some of the tenants.⁵⁶ The house now called Handle Hall was the home of the

⁵⁶ Thomas de Wardle and Alexander del Dene were tenants of the Hospitallers in Hundersfield in 1329; De Banco R. 279, m. 180 d. About 1540 James Bamford held the Hospitallers' part of Shore, paying 6d. rent; Kuerden MSS. v, fol. 84.

Henry Bamford made a settlement of his lands in 1581; Pal. of Lanc. Feet of F. bdlc. 43, m. 50. He died in 1597, holding messuages, &c., in Shore and Deanrod of Sir John Byron by rents of

17d. and 2s. 2d. respectively; Duchy of Lanc. Inq. p.m. xvii, no. 77.

In 1626 Thomas son of Thomas Whitehead held the Hospitallers' land; it was stated that the successive owners had been Ely, Stanner, Shore, and Henry Bamford; Surv. ut sup. 110.

Andrew son of Patrick de Hundersfield claimed a rent of 6d. against Alexander son of Nicholas de la Shore in 1295; Assize R. 1306, m. 15 d. Ellis de Stanriggs in 1306 claimed land in Hundersfield

against Roger del Shore; De Banco R. 161, m. 420 d. Ralph Shore died in Oct. 1560, holding the capital messuage called Shore, other messuages in Hundersfield called Littleborough, High Lee, Lenchcarr, and Middlewood, and some other lands, leaving a son and heir Thomas, thirteen years of age, and married to Margery daughter of Thomas Hill. A fourth part of Shore was held of Robert Savile by a rent of 2s.; all the rest of the estate was held of the queen, a rent of 13d. being

Dearden family, now lords of the manor of Rochdale.⁵⁷ Windy Bank⁵⁸ and Town House⁵⁹ are other old estates.

The house known as Windy Bank stands in a fine position above the road near to the ancient packhorse track leading over Blackstone Edge. It is a picturesque two-story stone-built house — shaped in plan, the long front facing south and the short arm running north at the east end. The principal elevation has three flush gables with long low mullioned windows with hood-moulds over. At the east end is a large projecting chimney, and at the south-east angle a large roughly-carved gargoyle in the form of a man holding open his mouth with both hands. Over the door are the initials I.B. (John Butterworth) and the date 1635, and there was formerly a sundial in the middle gable, traces of which still remain. The house is now let in tenements, and the interior has been remodelled and is without interest.⁶⁰

Lower Town House was rebuilt in 1604, and an illustration of it in the 18th century shows a picturesquely grouped two-story gabled structure with farm buildings adjoining. This building was pulled down in 1798 when the present house—a plain 18th-century stone building with sash windows—took its place. Over a door in the servants' hall is a carved stone from the old house with the initials 'R.N. W.N. 1604,' and in more modern characters 'W.N.B. rebuilt 1798.' In the wall of one of the outbuildings is a stone bearing the Newall arms and the initials and date, 'L.N.S. 1752.'⁶¹

Robert Holt of Stubley and John Belfield of Littleborough were among the landowners in 1626.⁶² At that time there were 1,134 acres of copyhold land. The chief landowners in 1797 were Mr. Dearden, Mr. Newall, Colonel Chadwick, and Mr. Beswicke.⁶³

On the west side of the high road at Steanor Bottom, near Calderbrook, is a three-story stone house with mullioned windows, along the front of which is a long ornamental panel⁶⁴ with carved border and quaint inscriptions:

NO MAN ON
EARTH CAN TE
LL THE TORMENT
THATS IN EL
—
A S E I 700

BY MANY
STROKES THE
WORK IS DONE
THAT COULD
NOT BE PER
FORMD BY ONE

The initials refer to one of the Eastwood family. Apart from the inscriptions the house is architecturally without interest.

TODMORDEN AND WALSDEN

INCHFIELD in Walsden was formerly reckoned a manor, having probably been the site of the manor-house of the Savile family, who, as above stated, once held a moiety of the manor of Rochdale as heirs of the Hugh de Eland of 1212.⁶⁵ In 1626 it was held by George son of George Travis of the king by a rent

payable; Duchy of Lanc. Inq. p.m. xi, no. 48. Thomas Shore in 1561 purchased a messuage, &c., from Henry Bamford; Pal. of Lanc. Feet. of F. bdlc. 23, m. 48.

Thomas Shore and Margery his wife made a settlement of lands, &c., in 1585; *ibid.* bdlc. 47, m. 68. Thomas Shore was in possession in 1626; *Surv.* ut sup. 106. Some deeds of the family are in Raines MSS. xvi, 217-23; see also Fishwick, *op. cit.* 433.

⁵⁷ *Ibid.* 449.

⁵⁸ In 1334 Henry son of Henry del Windybank, a minor, recovered possession of a messuage and lands in Hundersfield and Butterworth against William del Windybank; the occupier was Henry Tyrry; *Coram Rege* R. 297, m. 115 d.

Joan widow of Henry de Windybank in July 1352 recovered dower in lands in Hundersfield and Butterworth against Margery and Agnes, daughters of Richard de Wardle. The defence was a release granted by Joan in 1344; Duchy of Lanc. Assize R. 2, m. 3 d.

In 1568 Joan, one of the daughters and heirs of Richard Lightollers of Windy Bank, gave her right to Alexander College; Towneley MS. GG, no. 673.

Windy Bank was in 1626 held by Richard Lightollers by a rent of 4s. 8d. due to Savile; *Surv.* 109.

An abstract of the title deeds may be found in Raines MSS. ii, 297; it begins in 1718, when Robert (son of John son of Robert) Butterworth was owner.

⁵⁹ In 1626 there were two estates bearing this name. The Upper Town House, with 112 acres, was held by Alexander Kirshaw by rents of 2s. to the king and 1d. to Savile; and the Lower Town House, with 88 acres, was held by Robert Newall; *Surv.* 109.

The Town House evidences are given in Raines MSS. v, 264 on. They begin with a grant by Thomas son of

Michael de Wardle to Matthew de Kirshaw (Kyrkeschagh) of $\frac{1}{2}$ oxgang in Hundersfield in 1317. Christopher Kirshaw living in 1453 had two daughters, Eleanor and Isabel, of whom the latter married William Newall, and the former is said to have married Chadwick of Healey. There is a full pedigree of the Newall family in Fishwick's work, 445; for the family deeds see Raines MSS. iii, 146; v, 264, &c.

An indenture concerning the marriage of William son of Ralph Kirshaw of Littleborough with Agnes daughter of John Buckley and Emma his wife occurs in 1567; Pal. of Lanc. Plea R. 222, m. 9.

A settlement of ten messuages, &c., in Hundersfield was in 1572 made by Edmund Kirshaw, Geoffrey his son and heir apparent, and the latter's wife Katherine; Pal. of Lanc. Feet. of F. bdlc. 34, m. 102. This probably refers to the Upper Town House, which was eventually purchased by the Newalls; Fishwick, *op. cit.* 444.

Michael son of William del 'Ton' gave land in Hundersfield to Stanlaw Abbey between the Tonbrook and the land of the sons of Patrick; *Whalley Coucher*, i, 159.

⁶⁰ There is an illustration of Windy Bank in 1840 in Fishwick, *Rochdale*, 436, from a sketch by George Shaw in Raines MSS. ii, 295.

⁶¹ Fishwick, *Rochdale*, 443, 444.

⁶² *Surv.* ut sup. 104, 108.

⁶³ Land tax returns at Preston.

⁶⁴ There is an illustration of the panel or frieze, which is built up in many stones, in Baines, *Lancs.* (ed. 1836), ii, 646, but the blank panels are reduced in width, and the length of the whole consequently curtailed.

⁶⁵ *Lancs. Inq. and Extents* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), i, 40. Hugh de Eland had in 1202 granted 2 oxgangs in Hundersfield to Thomas son of Jordan at a rent of

2s. 8d.; Uhtred and Michael were the previous holders; *Final Concords*, i, 17.

John de Eland in 1311 held of Henry de Lacy one plough-land in Hundersfield, by the annual service of 60s.; *De Lacy Inq.* (Chet. Soc.), 20. John de Balshagh, perhaps as bailiff of Rochdale, in 1324-5 claimed tenements in Hundersfield against John de Eland and others, but did not proceed; Assize R. 426, m. 9.

Little is known of the lordship of the other moiety of Hundersfield. Robert de Flamborough (Flayneburgh) and Alice his wife in 1235 granted half an oxgang in Hundersfield to three brothers named Andrew, Peter, and Alexander, at a rent of 8d.; the land was Alice's; *Final Concords*, i, 69. In 1246 Alice widow of Robert de Flamborough (Flaynburg) had a suit with Patrick son of Michael de Hundersfield; Assize R. 1045, m. 53. In the same year Alice daughter and heir of Robert de Liversedge successfully claimed common of pasture in Hundersfield against Richard son of Andrew son of Matthew de Hundersfield; also against Patrick son of Michael, Richard son of Andrew, William son of Beatrice, Henry son of Ivo, Roger son of Adam, and Michael de Lightollers; Assize R. 404, m. 7d. 8. The plaintiff in these cases may have been the same Alice. Thomas de Langfield in 1306 made a claim for meadow in Todmorden and Hundersfield against Henry son of Richard de Hipperholm and John de Lacy; the last-named said he had nothing except in common with his wife Margaret, who was not named in the writ; Assize R. 419, m. 6.

In 1296 the land of Henry son of Patrick (perhaps the above-named Patrick) was in the lord's hands, in consequence of the felony of Randle brother and heir of Henry; *De Lacy Compoti* (Chet. Soc.), 6. The issues were 2s.

The descent of the Eland and Savile manor has been recited under Rochdale; Inchfield is styled a manor in 1551.

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of 40s. 5d.; the acreage was only 387 arable, with pasture lands of nearly 800 acres, and there were also of common land 300 acres.⁶⁶ The Walsden people had 788 acres of common in Inchfield.⁶⁷

TODMORDEN was held by divers tenants, some of whose lands passed in 1364 to William de Radcliffe of Langfield in Yorkshire, the ancestor, or at least the predecessor in title, of the Radcliffes of Todmorden and Great Mearley.⁶⁸ Richard Radcliffe of Todmorden, who died in 1502, held six messuages, 60 acres of land, &c., in Swineshead and Genredewood of the king as of his manor of Rochdale; a messuage called Henshaw in Hundersfield of John Hamerton; also the manor or capital messuage of Todmorden of Sir John Savile, all in socage. Charles Radcliffe, his son and heir, was thirty-five years of age.⁶⁹ Charles Radcliffe died on 15 August 1536, holding certain messuages and lands in Todmorden of Sir Henry

Savile in socage by a rent of 33s. 4d., and others in Walsden of the king by knight's service and a rent of 8s. 10½d.⁷⁰ Edward his son and heir was forty-six years of age, and died at Mearley in 1557, leaving the estates to his son Charles, forty-five years old.⁷¹ Charles, at his death in 1590, held Todmorden of Sir John Byron and Walsden of the queen; the service for the latter was 8s. rent.⁷² Henry the son and heir, then fifty-seven years old, died ten years later, his heir being his grandson Saville Radcliffe, aged sixteen.⁷³ Saville's grandson Joshua died in 1676, leaving as heir his daughter Elizabeth; she married Roger Mainwaring of Kermincham in Cheshire, and in 1717 the estate was sold. The purchaser was John Fielden, a Quaker. In 1796 it was sold to Anthony Crossley, from whom it descended to James Taylor of Calverlands, Berkshire.⁷⁴

Todmorden Hall is a two-story stone-built house

⁶⁶ Surv. ut sup. 123. Sir John Byron had sold it to George Travis the father. It descended in the Travis family until 1739, when Sarah daughter and co-heir of John Travis of Oldham married Lawrence Nuttall of Lower Town House; see Fishwick, *Rochdale*, 460; Raines MSS. v, 314-16.

⁶⁷ Surv. ut sup. The common of Walsden occupied 2,015 acres. An ancient grant by John de Eland excepted the pasture between Todmorden and Ramsden from the easements of the vill of Hundersfield, and the people of Inchfield claimed it as their right.

Other estates in this part of the district were Henshaw, held in 1626 by Saville Radcliffe (see below), and Lightbank and Hollinworth, formerly the lands of John Bradshaw, who in 1489-90 demised them to Richard Radcliffe of Todmorden; in 1626 they were held by John (grandson of Richard) Butterworth.

For the estates of Warland and Stonehouse see Fishwick, op. cit. 454, 455.

⁶⁸ For the charters of this family see Add. MS. 32104, no. 604, &c. The following show the composite character of the Radcliffes' estate: In 1299 Henry son of Richard de Hipperholm granted a fourth part of the vill of Todmorden to John de Lacy and Margaret his wife, to be held of the nearest chief lord; three years later he gave certain rents in Wardle; no. 548, 725, 728. Margaret de Lacy gave her lands to her son Thomas; no. 730. John de Eland gave Todmorden Hey, by the Little Blackcarr, to Richard Harder of Todmorden, at a rent of 2s.; no. 625.

Matthew son of Robert de le Wood in 1306 gave all his land in Awardbottom to Henry son of Thomas de Burdell; no. 1202. Roger de Todmorden gave to Robert son of Henry in 1317 land between Hennynshok and Penhilshawyske, and between lands of Ellis de Greenhurst and Thomas del Dene; no. 726. Thomas son of Richard del Dene in 1322 gave all his lands, &c., in Todmorden to his son Thomas and Cecily daughter of Henry de Wardle; no. 644. William son of Thomas del Dene in 1324 gave all his lands, &c., in Todmorden to Agnes daughter of John de Stodelay, whom he was marrying; no. 784, 754. Agnes, as widow of William, in 1342 gave most of her lands in Todmorden, with two houses built upon them, to John son of Thomas Harder, a rent of 2s. being payable to the chief lords; no. 772. The rent is the

same as that for Todmorden Hey above. Robert son of Henry de Swineshead in 1350 gave to William de Harwood all his lands, &c., in Hundersfield; no. 735.

The Dene family occur in 1314 in a suit by Agnes widow of Michael de le Dene to recover dower in a messuage, &c., in Hundersfield against John de le Dene and Geoffrey son of Richard de le Dene; De Banco R. 206, m. 25d.

In 1364 William son of Henry the Ward of Stones, gave lands within the hedge of the Ringge of Todmorden to William son of William de Radcliffe; Add. MS. 32104, no. 753. Three years later Adam Roger gave the Little Rode to the same William de Radcliffe; no. 781. In 1373 the lands in the former grant were given by William de Radcliffe to John de Notehgh (Nuttall); no. 624. John son of William de Radcliffe had in the same year obtained the reversion of lands at Swineshead from John son of Robert del Law, which the said Robert had from Robert son of William de Swineshead; no. 634, 770.

Richard II, at the request of Sir Robert de Urswick, in 1392 pardoned William de Radcliffe for the death of Robert de Lydesay; no. 750. In 1388 William son of William de Radcliffe had made a feoffment of his lands, services, &c., in Hundersfield and elsewhere in Lancashire; and these were in 1402 transferred to new feoffees, of whom John de Radcliffe was one; no. 746, 747. Henry IV in 1400 granted William de Radcliffe of Todmorden an annuity of £10 out of the profits of the manor of Rochdale; Duchy of Lanc. Misc. Bks. xv, fol. 20d. Richard son of William de Radcliffe married Margaret daughter and heir of Henry de Dyneley of Downham, and in 1401 her share of the inheritance was delivered to her; Add. MS. 32104, no. 667; see *Lancs. Inq. p.m.* (Chet. Soc.), i, 41, 42; Pal. of Lanc. Chan. Misc. 1/8, m. 23/4.

In 1418 William de Radcliffe of Todmorden became bound to Thomas Savile of Thornhill to submit to an arbitration; Geoffrey the son of William is named; Add. MS. 32104, no. 670.

In 1419 Henry de Dearden proceeded against William son of William de Radcliffe the younger and others for breach of the peace at Spotland; Add. MS. 32108, no. 1672.

The trustees of William son of William Radcliffe in 1423-4 gave Stubbs in Todmorden and other lands to Christiana daughter of Robert Pilkington, to hold for her life, with remainder to

Richard son of William son of William Radcliffe, &c.; Kuerden, fol. MS. 261, no. 661.

Henry Marland, vicar of Rochdale, and other trustees in 1443 gave to William son of William Radcliffe all lands, &c., in Hundersfield and Langfield; Add. MS. 32104, no. 780. William de Radcliffe made another feoffment in 1451; no. 722.

Richard Radcliffe occurs in 1490, when he acquired Hollinworth in Hundersfield from John son and heir of Thomas Bradshaw (no. 786) and also purchased the estate of Robert son and heir of Richard Henshaw in Walsden; no. 748. This last in the following year he granted to Peter Henshaw (no. 630), and in 1492 he assigned the same for life to his bastard son William Radcliffe and Elizabeth daughter of Thomas Towneley; no. 621.

For a charge of harbouring felons against Richard Radcliffe see Fishwick, *Rochdale*, 468 (quoting Duchy of Lanc. Plead. Hen. VII, ii, G 4).

⁶⁹ Duchy of Lanc. Inq. p.m. iii, no. 94.

⁷⁰ Ibid. viii, no. 35. In 1512 Charles Radcliffe and Edward his son made a lease of lands called Pighills and Dryelhurst in Hundersfield; Add. MS. 32104, no. 755.

⁷¹ Duchy of Lanc. Inq. p.m. x, no. 24. Edward Radcliffe in 1537 demised for a term to Richard Shepherd lands, &c., called Dobroyd, Stone Meadow, Norse Hoyle, and Carr in Todmorden; Add. MS. 32104, no. 646. In 1541 he agreed with Charles Stansfield as to the possession of a piece of land on the south side of the Calder and the east side of the water of Walsden; no. 662.

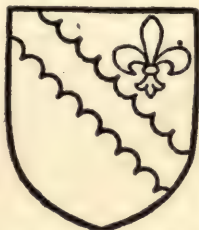
⁷² Duchy of Lanc. Inq. p.m. xv, no. 24. The following relate to purchases and settlements by Charles Radcliffe, Henry his son being joined in the later ones; Pal. of Lanc. Feet of F. bde. 12, m. 205; 26, m. 104; 27, m. 249; 34, m. 7; 40, m. 30.

⁷³ Duchy of Lanc. Inq. p.m. xvii, no. 45. For the descent see Dugdale, *Visit.* 1664, p. 240. A settlement of the manor of Todmorden was made by Henry Radcliffe in 1595; Pal. of Lanc. Feet of F. bde. 57, m. 43.

⁷⁴ For the later descent see Fishwick, *Rochdale*, 469-72.

In 1626, when Saville Radcliffe held the manor of Todmorden, with 398 acres of land, and 175 acres in Gauxholme, a number of the above-cited deeds were produced, as also a grant of 1537 by Edward Radcliffe to Charles his son and heir apparent, who had married Margaret, the

with gables and mullioned windows, originally in a pleasant situation on the north-west bank of the Calder, to which its gardens sloped; but it is now, however, almost completely shut in by other buildings, and its surroundings entirely altered. It takes the place of an older building on the same site of which it is probably a rebuilding or an enlargement. There is, however, nothing in the existing structure which appears to be older than the year 1603, at which date the rebuilding was carried out by Saville Radcliffe, though it is possible that a portion of the west wing may belong to the older building. The type and plan is that of a centre block with projecting end wings, the principal front, facing south, having stone gables and straight parapets with ball ornaments and large mullioned and transomed windows with hood-moulds. The centre and eastern wings are much loftier than the western, and suggest that the 1603 rebuilding may have comprised this portion of the house alone, the lower wing containing the kitchen being a part of the older house. The porch is an addition to the original west wing, as shown by a straight joint, but its detail suggests it having been erected at the same time as the rest of the house. The centre wing has two large four-light windows on each floor, those on the ground floor having double transoms, but the original windows of the east wing were cut away in the 18th century and larger square sash windows inserted on both floors, entirely spoiling the picturesque appearance of the house and altering the proportions of the front. These windows remained till 1908, when they were removed in their turn, and new mullioned windows put in their place. In 1626 Todmorden Hall is described in the Manor Survey⁷⁶ as 'a capital messuage fairly built of stone,' and in the will of John Fielden, who died there in 1734, the house is mentioned 'with its gatehouses and cottages.' From that date the hall seems to have been divided into two houses, when Abraham Fielden inherited it, except 'the new parlour, the dyning room, the mealhouse, the new chamber with part of the cellar,' which were reserved for the use of his mother.⁷⁶ This probably refers to the west wing, to which an addition was built including a new kitchen, the original kitchen being turned into the dining-room. The Hall still consists of two houses, but the plan was apparently



RADCLIFFE of Todmorden. *Argent a bend engrailed sable in the sinister chief a fleur de lis gules.*

so much modified in the 18th century that the original arrangements are not clear. This work appears to have been done by the Fieldens somewhere about the year 1743 (that date being on a stone in the cellar), and includes the present large stone staircase in the eastern part.⁷⁷

The roofs are now covered with modern blue slates, and the main roof is carried down at the back between the gables, finishing with overhanging eaves, the north front of the house being straight and unbroken, and producing something of the nature of an H plan in the upper story. The north elevation has end gables of unequal height similar to those in the principal front, but the pitch of the western gable has been altered on one side by the later kitchen addition. The exterior of the house bears no date, but a stone bearing a shield with the arms of Radcliffe quartering Greenacres, found in one of the attics during the restoration of 1908, was placed over the porch in the same year. The spout heads, however, have a bull's head, the Radcliffe crest, within a circle. The interior has been considerably modernized, but the principal front room at the east end is panelled in oak to a height of 10 ft., and has a finely-carved oak mantelpiece, on which, in the centre, are the arms of Radcliffe quartering Greenacres, impaling Hyde of Norbury, with the crests of Radcliffe and Hyde, and the mottoes, 'Natale Solo Duce.' 'Ama Virtutem.' On the cornice is the date 1603, and above three black shields, the centre (larger) one being inclosed within a garter and surmounted with an earl's coronet.⁷⁸ Below are four shields: (1) a lion rampant, (2) Radcliffe, (3) Hyde, and (4) a cross flory and the Radcliffe crest in a circle, between which are the initials S. R. K. R. (Saville Radcliffe and Katherine Hyde his wife). In one of the upper rooms is a portion of a good plaster ornamental frieze, now on two sides of the room only, but formerly continued all round. There is a space 5 ft. high between the ceiling of the corridor of the eastern house and the floor of the landing above, entered by a trap-door, and giving rise to the usual story of a priest's hole. The upper part of the porch in the western house has an open arch and wooden balustrade, forming a kind of small gallery to the hall, and is approached from the bedroom, an arrangement which gives rise to the story of a minstrels' gallery.⁷⁹ The hall is said to have had coloured glass in several of its windows until recent years,⁸⁰ but all of this has now disappeared.

The Fieldens of Bottomley⁸¹ and the Crossleys of

manor of Todmorden, Hermithome, and other lands being included; Surv. ut sup. 134-6. Saville Radcliffe, in 1631, paid £25 on refusing knighthood; Misc. (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), i, 216.

A settlement of the manor of Todmorden was made in 1695 by Roger Mainwaring and Elizabeth his wife, Saville Radcliffe and Mary his wife, and Radcliffe Scholefield and Mary his wife; Pal. of Lanc. Feet of F. bdl. 234, m. 92.

Roger Mainwaring the younger and Elizabeth his wife were in possession in 1701; ibid. bdl. 246, m. 107. The same and James Mainwaring held it in 1717; ibid. bdl. 277, m. 107. This fine was probably levied in connexion with the sale.

⁷⁶ Quoted by Fishwick, *Rochdale*, 471.

⁷⁷ Fishwick, op. cit. 472.

⁷⁸ The oak balusters of a former 17th-century staircase are still preserved in a lumber room in the house.

⁷⁹ It is said to have had the arms of Radcliffe Earl of Sussex.

⁸⁰ It is possible that the entrance hall of the present west house may mark the 'screens' of a former building, the great hall of which would be the central portion of the east house now occupied by the two front rooms and the passage behind. The plan of the building suggests its having been rebuilt on an older foundation. But the porch is certainly of later date than the original hall, the minstrels' gallery of which, if there ever was

one, would probably have been over the screens.

⁸¹ Fishwick, op. cit. 472.

⁸² For an account of this family see Fishwick, op. cit. 457-64, with pedigree. The surname appears to have been Fieldend originally.

William Fielden in 1581 made a feoffment of messuages, &c., in Hundersfield; Pal. of Lanc. Feet of F. bdl. 43, m. 164. About the same time Nicholas (bastard son of Bartholomew) Fielden and Christabel his wife purchased a messuage in Hundersfield from John Stansfield and Agnes his wife; ibid. m. 167. In the following year he acquired another messuage from Edward Milne, Agnes his wife, and Charles his son; ibid. bdl. 44, m. 87.

A HISTORY OF LANCASHIRE

Scaitcliffe⁸² have long held their estates. Allescholes⁸³ and Bernshaw Tower in Todmorden⁸⁴ may also be mentioned.

The Chetham family probably held a part of Hundersfield at the beginning of the 13th century, for Thomas Earl of Derby, who died in 1521, held lands there as successor of the Pilkingtons,⁸⁵ and the Chaderton family also had some. The Survey of 1626 gives a full account of the owners and tenants at that time; some of them have been noticed in other parts of Rochdale, as John Butterworth of Turnagh.

The surnames of Howarth,⁸⁷ Lord,⁸⁸ and others⁸⁹ also occur in deeds and inquisitions.

There were 748 acres of copyhold land in 1626.

In 1788 the chief landowners were John Crossley and Hannah Greenwood.⁹⁰

The town of **TODMORDEN**, which **BOROUGH** spread into Yorkshire, obtained a local board in 1861,⁹¹ and this, after some changes, became an urban district council in 1894. A borough charter was granted in 1896; the area includes the former township of Todmorden with Walsden. In 1888 the whole was transferred to the West Riding of Yorkshire. A town hall, given by the Messrs. Fielden, was built in 1875. The gas works belong to the corporation, but water is supplied by Rochdale Corporation from works recently purchased from a private company. Todmorden is forming a new reservoir of its own. The market days are Wednesday and Saturday; and there are two fairs, on the Thursday before Easter and the last Thursday in September. There is a free library.

The old parochial chapel of **CHURCHES ST. MARY** stands on a small eminence in the centre of Todmorden, but is architecturally uninteresting, having been entirely rebuilt in 1770, with the exception of the lower part

of the tower, which belongs to the 17th-century structure.⁹² It consists of a chancel, nave, west tower, and south porch, but the chancel and porch are modern additions erected in 1897. The 18th-century building, which forms the present nave, is a plain oblong structure faced with wrought stone and with a stone-slatted roof. On the south side are two square-headed doorways, one now built up and the other hidden by the later porch, between which are two tall semicircular headed windows with impost mouldings and keystones. Over the doors are two smaller semicircular headed windows, and at either end of the building two windows each of three lights, one above the other, the centre lights of which have a semicircular head springing from the level of the cornice of the side lights.

The tower is 15 ft. square on the outside, and has a pointed window on the west on the ground-floor stage. The upper part was rebuilt and raised in 1860, and terminates in an embattled parapet; it retains, however, its 18th-century cock weather-vane. The interior is quite plain, and the fittings, with the exception of the west gallery, the front of which has some good 18th-century detail, are all modern, the building having been completely restored in 1860-8, and again in 1897. The new chancel is Gothic, and has a good east window. There were formerly galleries all round, and that on the north side was standing in 1868, when Glynne visited the church, which he describes as 'scarcely worth notice.'

There is a clock in the tower and one bell, on which is the inscription: 'In dulcedine vocis cantabo tui (sic) D'ne. In jucunditate soni sonabo tibi D'ne. W. H. O. L. M. S. R. E. 1603'; and below, 'Recast, tower raised new clock 1860 Mears, Lond. fecit.'

The churchyard is on the south and west sides, raised high above the roadway, and contains a few

⁸² See Fishwick, op. cit. 475-9.

Richard son and heir of Richard Crossley of Scaitcliffe occurs in 1586; Add. MS. 32104, no. 664. Anthony Crossley made a feoffment of messuages, &c., in Todmorden in 1591; Pal. of Lanc. Feet of F. bdlle. 53, m. 140.

In 1626 John son of Anthony Crossley held 120 acres in Scaitcliffe and Shawhead; and Jeremy son of Richard Crossley held 60 acres in Scaitcliffe; Surv. ut. sup. 137.

⁸³ Fishwick, op. cit. 456.

⁸⁴ Ibid. 479; relating that until about 1870 'at one end of the farmhouse was a small turreted building, and the tradition was that under it lay buried a "chest" of gold, and in digging for this hidden treasure the building was undermined and fell down.'

James Lomax of Pilsforth died in 1623 holding lands in Todmorden of the king in socage, and leaving a son and heir Richard, twelve years of age; *Lancs. Inq. p.m.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), iii, 441; Duchy of Lanc. Inq. p.m. xxvii, no. 31. Richard Lomax, the heir, in 1626 held 'Besingshaw' with 65 acres, paying rents of 6s. to Saville and 3s. 4d. to Radcliffe; Surv. ut. sup. 139.

For a Lomax suit of 1690 see *Exch. Dep.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), 77.

⁸⁵ Duchy of Lanc. Inq. p.m. v, no. 68. The Derby rental of 1523 (in the possession of Lord Lathom) records only a rent of 60s. 2d. in Rochdale, purchased from Gilbert Leigh; see p. 129 and *P.C.H. Lancs.* iv, 259.

⁸⁷ John Savile of Eland in 1367 granted

to Thomas de Haworth all the lands in Todmorden formerly belonging to John son of Richard de Greenhurst, except those called Nollerode and Hingandsagh; Add. MS. 32104, no. 782; Henry de Haworth was a witness. The same John Savile made a release of all actions against Thomas in 1385; *ibid.* no. 638. Gilbert Holden in 1584 acquired two messuages, &c., in Todmorden and Hundersfield from Henry Haworth and Janet his wife; Pal. of Lanc. Feet of F. bdlle. 46, m. 210. Henry Haworth of Burnley Wood in 1586 gave to his son and heir John, on marriage with Janet daughter of William Bolton of Ightenhill, lands, &c., in Todmorden and Hundersfield; Add. MS. 32104, no. 664.

⁸⁸ Edmund Lord the younger purchased a barn and land in Migealghden in Hundersfield (see *Lancs. and Ches. Rec.* [Rec. Soc.], ii, 255) from Charles Holt and Mary his wife in 1577; Pal. of Lanc. Feet of F. bdlle. 39, m. 109. Edward Lord died at Butterworth in 1605 holding various messuages and lands in the hamlet of Todmorden in Hundersfield of Saville Radcliffe, by a rent of 2d.; he also held lands in Butterworth of John Holt, and in Castleton of James Scholefield. Charles, his son and heir, was fifty-one years of age; *Lancs. Inq. p.m.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), i, 114. In 1626 Charles son of Henry Lord (who died in 1623), and grandson of Charles, held the estate called Godplay, with 151 acres, by a rent of 6s. 8d. to the king and 2d. to Saville Radcliffe; Surv. ut. sup. 140.

⁸⁹ It will have been seen from preceding notes that Hundersfield and many of its hamlets gave surnames to families—as Wardle, Todmorden, and others, but there is nothing to show the exact character of their tenure, nor the descent of their estates.

John de Buersill in 1361 acquired a messuage and lands in Hundersfield from Adam del Clough and Maud his wife; *Final Conc.* ii, 168. Robert del Lawe and Joan his wife in 1374 made a settlement of a small estate; *ibid.* ii, 188. William le Genour in 1379 acquired a messuage and lands from Henry de Burton and Alice his wife; *ibid.* iii, 7.

William de Hulton and Alice his wife in 1286 claimed the latter's dower in Todmorden against Richard de Hardehesel and Alexander son of Henry de Whitworth; *De Banco R.* 64, m. 9 d.

Robert de Bradefield and Joan his wife in 1315 claimed the latter's dower in a messuage, lands, and rent in Wardleworth, Henry del Stocks being defendant; *De Banco R.* 212, m. 50 d.

Robert Stott and Joan his wife had a messuage and land in 1582; Pal. of Lanc. Feet of F. bdlle. 44, m. 157.

⁹⁰ Land tax returns at Preston.

⁹¹ *Lond. Gaz.* 3 May 1861; reconstituted in 1875 by 38 & 39 Vict. cap. 211. A school board formed in 1874; *Lond. Gaz.* 31 July.

⁹² Fishwick, op. cit. 179. A brief to aid the rebuilding was issued in 1767. For a description of the chapel, &c., in 1769 see *Local Glean. Lancs. and Ches.* ii, 8.

stones with good 17th-century lettering. It was closed for burials in 1858.

CHRIST CHURCH (the parish church) stands on high ground on the west side of the town in a position commanding a fine view down the valley westward towards Burnley.⁹⁸ It was built between 1830 and 1832, and consists of chancel, nave, with north and south aisles, and west tower. The chancel, however, is new, having been added in 1886, the original building, which is in the Gothic style, having been designed, according to the custom of the day, with a small square east end. The interior is very lofty and has galleries over both aisles and at the west end. Considering the time when the church was erected, its architecture, though poor, is rather better than the usual Gothic of the period.

There are twelve bells, one by Thomas Mears, 1836, and the rest by Taylor of Loughborough, 1897 (eight ringing bells and three chimes). The old bell is fixed stationary.

The church plate, which is common to Christ Church and St. Mary's, consists of two chalices, a paten and flagon of 1832, two chalices and three patens of later date with the Birmingham marks.

The registers begin in 1666, but the first entries are fragmentary on loose sheets pasted in. There are some quaint entries by the Rev. Henry Crabtree (1662-85), who frequently added astrological comments.⁹⁴ The registers are in a very dilapidated condition. The first volume begins with burials and baptisms for 1678, and the years 1666 and 1667 follow, the volume containing entries up to 1758. The second volume comprises the years 1675 to 1709, and the third 1729 to 1812. Many of the entries are on loose sheets, now very much decayed and mildewed. The registers require a thorough overhauling.

The churchwardens' accounts begin 1720.

A chapel probably existed at **ADVOUSON** Todmorden by 1500;⁹⁵ though it was but scantily furnished in 1552, that may have been due to its confiscation by the Crown as a chantry.⁹⁶ It was repurchased by the inhabitants for 6s. 8d.⁹⁷ Soon afterwards the chapel-yard was used for burial.⁹⁸ As there was no endowment it was probably difficult to find a curate,⁹⁹ and only fragmentary notices occur before 1640.¹⁰⁰ The Commonwealth Commissioners in 1650 recommended

that the chapel should be made a parish church.¹⁰¹ After the Restoration the people seem to have been largely Nonconformists, the Quakers being very numerous. About 1706 the curate had an income of £16, of which £14 was from the people's contributions; the clerk begged wool through the chapelry for his maintenance.¹⁰² Canon Raines states that John Welsh, curate from 1713 to 1726, was 'very successful in reclaiming Dissenters.'¹⁰³ The benefice became a vicarage under the Rochdale Vicarage Act of 1866; the Bishop of Manchester presents the incumbents, of whom the following is a list since the Restoration:—¹⁰⁴

1662	Henry Crabtree
?	Thomas Ingham
	Thomas Grimshaw
oc. 1695	Daniel Pighells (Pickles)
1699	Robert Whitehead, B.A. (Brasenose Coll., Oxf.) ¹⁰⁵
1704	Robert Butterworth (Jesus Coll., Camb.)
1713	John Welsh
1726	Joseph Sutcliff
1731	William Grimshaw ¹⁰⁷
1742	Robert Hargraves, B.A.
1770	John Crosse, B.A. (St. Edmund Hall, Oxf.)
1775	Joseph Atkinson
1819	Robert Seattle
1821	Joseph Cowell
1846	John Edwards, M.A. (Lincoln Coll., Oxf.)
1864	Anthony John Plow
1868	Rennell Francis Wynn Molesworth, ¹⁰⁸ M.A. (Brasenose Coll., Oxf.)
1875	William Augustus Conway ¹⁰⁹
1883	Edward James Russell, ¹¹⁰ M.A. (St. Mary Hall, Oxf.)
1910	Charles Paul Keeling, M.A. (St. John's Coll. Camb.)

More recently, in connexion with the Church of England, St. Peter's, Walsden, has been erected; it was consecrated in 1848; the Crown and the Bishop of Manchester present alternately.¹¹¹

A school was founded at Walsden in 1713.¹¹²

There are several Methodist churches at Todmorden and Walsden, the Wesleyans, Primitive Methodists, and United Free Methodists all being represented.

⁹⁸ It was illegally used as the parish church for twenty years, and an Act of Parliament had to be obtained to legalize the marriages celebrated therein; Fishwick, loc. cit.

⁹⁴ As for instance: '1685, November 1st, James son of James Taylor of Todmorden. He was born 2nd October, near sun setting, and also near a full moon, which is sure sign of a short life'; see *Lancs. and Ches. Antiq. Soc.* v, 350.

⁹⁶ Fishwick, op. cit. 177.

⁹⁷ *Ch. Goods.* (Chet. Soc.), 49; Robert Turnagh was the priest there. He appeared at the Visitations of 1548 and 1554, but not in 1562 or later.

⁹⁸ Raines, *Chant.* (Chet. Soc.), ii, 277.

⁹⁹ Fishwick, loc. sup. cit.

¹⁰⁰ The curate in 1590 was a preacher, but 'insufficient'; S.P. Dom. Eliz. xxxi, 47. Todmorden is named in 1610 among the Rochdale chapels of ease maintained by the inhabitants; *Hist. MSS. Com. Rep.* xiv, App. iv, 12.

¹⁰¹ Gilbert Ashley occurs in 1590; Fishwick, op. cit. 181.

¹⁰² *Commonwealth Ch. Surv.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), 19; the fixed stipend was 6s. 8d. only. The ministers of this period were:—

Robert Towne, described as 'antinomian,' banished by the Classis in 1648; W. A. Shaw, *Bury Classis* (Chet. Soc.), 53.

John Hill, 1647, to whom, as 'a godly and orthodox divine,' a payment of £40 a year was ordered out of the sequestered tithes of Lord Byron; *Plund. Mins. Accts.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), i, 60.

Francis Core, 1650; 'scandalous in life and conversation'; *Ch. Surv.*

William Norcott, 1654; Fishwick, loc. cit.

Thomas Somerton, 1658; 'he had been a blacksmith or farrier and preached strange doctrines'; Raines in *Not. Cestr.* (Chet. Soc.), ii, 148, 149.

¹⁰³ *Ibid.* ii, 147-51; of a hundred families in the chapelry there were fifty

Quakers, twenty Presbyterians, and thirty Anabaptists. These figures may refer to persons only.

¹⁰⁸ *Ibid.* ii, 150, 151, where an account is given of the attempt to recover a levy for the curate's stipend in 1719.

¹⁰⁴ This list is taken mainly from Fishwick, op. cit. 182-8, where full accounts of the incumbents will be found.

¹⁰⁶ The church papers at Chester begin at this point.

¹⁰⁷ He was of Christ's College, Cambridge, and became incumbent of Harewood in Yorkshire. He was one of the leading preachers of the Methodist revival of the time. He died in 1763. There is a notice of him in *Dict. Nat. Biog.*

¹⁰⁸ Afterwards rector of Washington, Durham.

¹⁰⁹ Previously incumbent of Heap, Bury.

¹¹⁰ Previously a vicar of St. James, Heap; Hon. Canon of Manchester.

¹¹¹ For district see *Lond. Gas.* 4 July 1845. ¹¹² *Notitia Cestr.* ii, 153.

A HISTORY OF LANCASHIRE

The Congregationalists have a church at Todmorden.¹¹³

The Baptists have long held an influential position in the Todmorden district; they have several churches. A meeting house was erected at Shore in 1777 for the General or Arminian Baptists.¹¹⁴

The Society of Friends also has long been established here, the history going back to the 17th century.

There is a Unitarian Church, built by Samuel, John, and Joshua Fielden.

The small Roman Catholic church of St. Joseph was opened in 1868.

In 1471 the Abbot of Whalley allowed the inhabitants of Butterworth and Hundersfield the use of the chapel which they had lately built at *LITTLEBOROUGH*, provided no injury was done to the mother church of Rochdale.¹¹⁵ The inventory of 1552 shows that the chapel was but poorly furnished.¹¹⁶ It was repurchased by the inhabitants for 40s.¹¹⁷ A plan of the seating in 1556 has been preserved.¹¹⁸ In this place also there was no maintenance for the curate beyond the contributions of the people, but the list of curates is fairly continuous from 1580.¹¹⁹ The Commonwealth Commissioners in 1650 recommended that it should be made a parish church.¹²⁰ In 1717 the inhabitants contributed £10 a year for the curate's stipend;¹²¹ and in 1747 a subscription was made to meet a grant from Queen Anne's Bounty which enabled a tenement in Shaw to be purchased.¹²² The old building, having long been dangerous, was at last pulled down, the present church of the Holy Trinity being erected in 1820 on an adjacent site.¹²³ It has since been enlarged by the addition of a chancel in 1889. The vicar of Rochdale presents the incumbents, who have been styled vicars since the Vicarage Act of 1866. The following is an imperfect list of them since 1582 :—¹²⁴

oc. 1582-93	William Greaves
oc. 1602	Richard Knowles
oc. 1604	Joseph Marcroft ¹²⁵
oc. 1622	— Poston ¹²⁶

¹¹³ The history begins in 1835; Patmos Chapel, built for the Methodist New Connexion in 1816, was purchased in 1841. See B. Nightingale, *Lancs. Nonconformity*, iii, 279-81.

¹¹⁴ A. Taylor, *Engl. Gen. Baptists*, 179, 272, 389.

¹¹⁵ Raines in *Notitia Cestr.* ii, 132, 133; see the Pike House evidences in Raines MSS. iv, 61, where a view of the chapel in 1815 is given. An earlier sketch (1770) may be seen in Fishwick, *Rochdale*, 189.

¹¹⁶ *Cb. Goods*, 49; Robert Turnagh served this chapel as well as Todmorden. Bernard Hamer was priest there in 1547 and 1550, but was dead in 1554; *ibid.* 52. Roger Lynney is said to have been the curate in 1517; Fishwick, *op. cit.* 195.

¹¹⁷ The price named in Raines' *Cbanceries* (277) is 13s. 4d. The deed of sale is in the Raines MSS. i, 203.

¹¹⁸ Printed by Fishwick, *op. cit.* 190, 191. An encroachment by James Halliwell of Pike House, who brought in a new seat, was defeated in 1628; *Notitia Cestr.* ii, 133, 134.

¹¹⁹ John Chetham was curate in 1563,

but the name is erased in the 1565 list; Visitation Lists at Chester. Edmund Hopwood, literate, was licensed as 'reader' in 1576, so that there was probably no ordained curate at that time; Pennant's Account-book. In 1610 the chapel was among those 'maintained by the inhabitants'; *Hist. MSS. Com. Rep.* xiv, App. iv, 12.

¹²⁰ *Commonw. Ch. Surv.* p. 20. An increase of £40 was given to the minister in 1650 out of Lord Byron's sequestered tithes; *Plund. Mins. Accts.* i, 85.

¹²¹ Gastrell, *Notitia*, ii, 135; it is stated to have been fixed when the seats were arranged in 1556, and to have been still paid in 1849. In 1717 the chapel was used for baptism, but the names were entered in the parish church books, and all surplice fees went to the vicar. The registers of Littleborough begin in 1758.

¹²² See the subscribers' names, *ibid.* 135 note.

¹²³ Fishwick, *op. cit.* 193, 194.

¹²⁴ The list is taken mostly from Fishwick, *op. cit.*, 196-201, where biographical notices may be seen.

¹²⁵ Cited in 1611 for not wearing a surplice, and in 1620 for not observing a

oc. 1627	William Walker
oc. 1641	Robert Dunster
oc. 1647	Isaac Allen ¹²⁷
oc. 1649	Thomas Bradshaw, M.A. (Caius Coll., Camb.) ¹²⁸
oc. 1669	Thomas Parry
oc. 1671	Thomas Guy
oc. 1694-6	Edmund Thornley, B.A. (Jesus Coll., Camb.)
1727	John Kippax
oc. 1730	Joseph Sutcliff
1745	John Keighley ¹²⁹
1769	Barton Shuttleworth, B.A.
1794	John Rutter
1816	Thomas Steele, B.A. (St. John's Coll., Camb.) ¹³⁰
1845	Thomas Sturgess Mills
1864	Thomas Carter, M.A. (Queen's Coll., Oxf.)
1872	Alfred Salts, LL.D. (St. John's Coll., Camb.)

The following additional churches have been erected during the last century: St. John's, Smallbridge, 1834;¹³¹ St. James' the Apostle, Wardle, 1858;¹³² St. James's, Calderbrook, 1870; St. Andrew's, Dearnley, 1895; St. Barnabas', Shore, 1901. The vicar of Smallbridge presents to Wardle, but the patronage of the others is vested in the Bishop of Manchester, except that the present vicar of Littleborough presents to Calderbrook during his incumbency.

A school was built in 1700 near Pike House.¹³³

The Wesleyans, Primitive Methodists, New Connexion, and Free Methodists have churches at Littleborough; and the last-named have a church also at Smithy Bridge.

The Congregationalists have churches at Littleborough, Smallbridge, and Calderbrook.¹³⁴

The Baptists have a church at Littleborough.

At the same place is the Roman Catholic church of St. Mary of the Annunciation, founded in 1879.¹³⁵

fast day; Fishwick, *op. cit.* The will of James Stott of Littleborough, was proved before him in 1617; J. P. Earwaker's note.

¹²⁶ *Misc.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), i, 67.

¹²⁷ Shaw, *Bury Classis*, 32, 209; he was a preacher then, but 'unsettled.'

¹²⁸ *Ibid.* 215.

¹²⁹ The church papers at Chester Dioc. Reg. begin with him.

¹³⁰ He compiled a hymn book in 1816, which was extensively used in the district.

¹³¹ *Lond. Gaz.* 30 Nov. 1844, for district.

¹³² *Lond. Gaz.* 11 March 1859.

¹³³ Gastrell, *Notitia*, ii, 137.

¹³⁴ The history of that at Calderbrook begins in 1823; a chapel, known as Summit, was built in 1833. A church was formed at Smallbridge in 1828; the present building was opened in 1866. At Littleborough a room was hired in 1869, and a chapel was built in 1876; Nightingale, *Lancs. Nonconformity*, iii, 249.

¹³⁵ Kelly, *Engl. Cath. Miss.* 252.

BOLTON-LE-MOORS

GREAT BOLTON
LITTLE BOLTON
TONGE-WITH-
HAULGH
SHARPLES

LITTLE LEVER
DARCY LEVER
BRIGHTMET
HARWOOD
BRADSHAW

TURTON
EDGEWORTH
ENTWISLE
QUARLTON
LONGWORTH

RIVINGTON
ANGLEZARKE
BLACKROD
LOSTOCK

The ancient parish of Bolton has an area of 33,406 acres. A very large portion of it was formerly moorland, and much still remains in this condition in the high lands in the northern half of the district. Of the formation of the parish nothing is known. The lands within it were in the 12th century held by three distinct tenures, and as Lostock was intimately associated with Rumworth, though the latter township lies in another parish, it would appear that the delimitation of the area, and the adhesion to Bolton of the isolated portion—Blackrod and Lostock—goes back to a remote period. On the other hand there are indications that the township of Great Lever has been separated from this parish to become part of the manor-parish of Middleton.

For the old county lay, fixed in 1624, Bolton, together with the township of Aspull in Wigan, was divided into six portions contributing equally, viz. :—Bolton with its hamlets, Turton with Longworth, Edgeworth with its hamlets, Harwood with its hamlets, Blackrod with Aspull, and Rivington, Anglezarke, and Lostock; each £1 14s. 1½d. when the hundred paid £100.¹ To the more ancient fifteenth Bolton contributed 21s. 8d.; Turton, 15s.; Edgeworth, 12s. 6d.; Harwood, 12s. 7d.; Rivington, 10s.; Blackrod, 4s.; and Lostock was joined with Rumworth in 14s., out of £41 14s. 4d. paid by the hundred.²

Apart from the history of the town of Bolton, and the manufacturing villages which have grown up around it, there is nothing of historical interest to narrate. With the exception of the Pilkingtons of Rivington, the Bradshaws of Bradshaw, and the Orrells of Turton, the local landowners of the mediæval period were either non-resident or obscure. 'Lusty lads, liver and light,' from Bolton-le-Moors are in an old ballad said to have fought at Flodden under Sir Edward Stanley. After the Reformation³ the district became strongly Puritan, there being very few openly avowed recusants,⁴ and it sided with the Parliament in the Civil War. There was a visitation of the plague in 1623.⁵ Defoe, who visited the district early in the 18th century, 'saw nothing remarkable' in the town of Bolton, but noticed that the cotton manufacture had reached it; the place did not seem so flourishing and increasing as Manchester.⁶ The later history of the parish has been that of the growth of its trade and the inventions—particularly

the local one of Crompton's mule—by which its manufactures were able to develop to their present magnitude.

The townships have (between 1894 and 1898) been greatly altered by consolidations, and the old parish now includes the following: Bolton, Little Lever, Belmont, Turton, Edgeworth, Rivington, Anglezarke, and Blackrod. The new township or civil parish of Bolton includes not only the old Great and Little Bolton, Tonge-with-Haulgh, Darcy Lever, Lostock, and the southern end of Sharples, but also a considerable part of the adjacent parish of Deane.

The geological formation consists throughout the parish of the Carboniferous Series. For some distance around the town of Bolton the Coal Measures are in evidence; in the townships of Harwood, Bradshaw, and the southern portions of Turton and Sharples the Lower Coal Measures, and in the remaining portions of the parish the same series intermixed with the underlying Millstone Grit.

The agricultural land in the parish is at present occupied as follows: Arable land, 1,369 acres; permanent grass, 17,003; woods and plantations, 218. Details are given thus:—

	Arable acres	Grass acres	Woods, &c. acres
Bolton	—	78	—
Bolton	1,159	4,124	94
Astley Bridge	6	963	3
Belmont	1	1,147	29
Bradshaw	30	879	7
Edgeworth	11	1,742	19
Entwisle	—	949	—
Harwood	18	987	—
Longworth	1	841	1
Tonge	—	402	—
Haulgh	—	24	—
Turton	2	2,798	65
Darcy Lever	13	294	—
Little Lever	29	378	—
Brightmet	56	709	—
Quarleton	33	688	—

Many of the natives of the parish have achieved distinction in one way or another. Of these some are noticed in the accounts of the townships with which they were connected. In addition the following

¹ Gregson, *Fragments* (ed. Harland), 22.

² Ibid. 18. Exactly the same townships will be found in the subsidy roll of 1332; *Exch. Lay Subs.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), 29, &c. It would seem that Bolton included Great and Little Bolton, Haulgh, Tonge, Brightmet, and Sharples; Turton included Longworth also; Edgeworth, Entwisle and Quarleton; Har-

wood, Bradshaw; and Rivington, Anglezarke. There seems nothing to show how the Levers were assessed—probably with Bolton.

³ The letters of George Marsh show that there were a number of Protestants in the Bolton district in 1554; Foxe's *Acts and Mon.* (ed. Cattley), vii, 63, 66, 67.

⁴ The following in 1630–2 compounded

for the two-thirds of their estates which should have been sequestered for recusancy: Turton—Alice Orrell, £20 a year; Blackrod—William Norris, £2, and Margaret Rogerley £4.

⁵ Baines, *Lancs.* (ed. 1868), i, 552; the burials at Bolton in that year were nearly 500, or four to five times the average.

⁶ *Tour Through Great Britain* (ed. 1738), iii, 180.



have found places in the *Dictionary of National Biography*: John Lodge, archivist, author of a *Peerage of Ireland*; died 1774. Lawrence Holden, 1710–78, was a Nonconformist divine. Moses Holden, an astronomer, was born at Bolton in 1777; he lived chiefly at Preston, and died there in 1864. John Henry Robinson, 1796–1871, was a line engraver. Sir Thomas Bazley, born at Gilnow in 1797, was a cotton spinner at Halliwell, making his factories models of good order; he was an earnest free trader, and represented Manchester as a Liberal in Parliament from 1858 to 1880. He was made a baronet in 1869, and died in 1885. William Lassell, 1799–1880, astronomer. John Clowes Grundy, 1806–67, print-seller and art patron. Abraham Walter Paulton, 1812–76, was educated at Stonyhurst for the priesthood, but became a journalist and politician; he died at Boughton Hall, Surrey, in 1876. Marshall Claxton, 1813–81, historical painter. Thomas S. Mort, 1816–78, was one of the pioneers of commerce in New South Wales. James Christopher Scholes, 1852–90, became an antiquary and genealogist; his book on Bolton Church has been used in the following account of its history.

The church of *ST. PETER*⁷ stands **CHURCH** on a steep eminence rising above the River Croal at the end of Churchgate, about 200 yards east of the old market-place, and is a handsome building in the style of the 14th century erected in 1867–71, at the charge of Peter Ormrod.⁸ The former church, which stood on the same site, then at the extreme end of the town, was a low 15th-century building, consisting of chancel, nave with north and south aisles, south porch, and west tower.⁹ The windows of the clearstory were square-headed, but most of the others had been altered, except that at the east end of the chancel, which had seven lights under a depressed arch. The tower had an embattled parapet, but there were no battlements to the nave. The south porch had been rebuilt in 1694, and the aisle walls bore evidence of work of apparently the same date. The east end of each aisle was inclosed by a screen, forming the Chetnam Chapel on the north and the Bradford Chapel on the south side of the chancel, which contained several good stalls with heraldic carving. The erection of galleries in the 18th century, and their extension over the chapels, had necessitated the raising of the walls and roof of the chancel as high as the nave, their distinction being thus lost on the outside. The aisle walls had also been raised, and a second tier of square-

headed windows inserted to light the galleries. The appearance of the church immediately before its demolition was not such as to make its disappearance a matter of much regret.¹⁰

The old church was taken down in 1866. During the demolition several pre-Norman stones were found under the tower, including a cross in three pieces.¹¹ There were also fragments of two other crosses, part of another cross shaft, and two stones with rude carvings, probably belonging to the 11th century, together with fragments of 12th and 13th-century work,¹² a sepulchral slab, a stone coffin, and the remains of a recumbent female figure, apparently of the 14th century, showing that at least two stone churches of earlier date had existed on the same site.¹³

The present building,¹⁴ which was consecrated in June 1871, consists of chancel of three bays 41 ft. by 31 ft., with north and south aisles, north and south transepts 25 ft. by 22 ft., nave of six bays 114 ft. by 33 ft. 3 in., with north and south aisles and lofty clearstory,¹⁵ south porch, and tower on the north side forming a porch below. It is a very good example of modern Gothic work, and is built of Longridge stone,¹⁶ the roofs being covered with green slates. The tower, which is 180 ft. high to the top of the vanes, has a square parapet and angle pinnacles, and forms a fine feature at the end of the main street of the town. The windows have all good tracery, that at the east of the chancel being of seven lights, and that at the west end of the nave of six.

In the chapel on the south side of the chancel are preserved three of the stalls of the old church with misericordes, one with the crest of the Bartons (acorn between two oak leaves), another with that of the Stanleys (eagle and child), and the third with an angel holding a plain shield. The end of the third stall has a poppy head, and is carved with two angels holding a book.

An organ was first erected in 1795; it was greatly enlarged in 1852 and replaced by another, which included some of the old pipes, in 1882.¹⁷

One of the tablets in the church was placed there by the townspeople to commemorate the bravery of Robert Knowles, a Bolton man who distinguished himself in the Peninsular War, and fell at the pass of Roncesvalles, 25 July 1813.

The churchyard lies chiefly on the south side of the church,¹⁸ and since 1903 has been a public garden under the care of the corporation, who raised the ground and put the flat gravestones out of sight.

⁷ An award by Lord Stanley in 1478 ordered certain money to be paid 'in the church of St. Margaret of Bolton at St. Margaret's altar'; Lever Chart. (Add. MS. 32103), no. 190. Two of the old bells bore invocations of St. Peter; *Ch. Gds.* (Chet. Soc.), 25.

⁸ This benefactor was a cotton manufacturer and banker of the town and lived at Halliwell Hall. He died in 1875.

⁹ The tower was not central with the nave, and was evidently part of an older church, the nave of which had been pulled down and widened about 1480. The tower at the same time had been encased with stone. When the building was pulled down in 1866 it was found that the outer 2 ft. of the tower walls was a later addition which easily came away, but the inner part, 4 ft. thick, was immensely strong, and of older date.

In 1693 the vicar wrote: 'Our chancel is at present out of order, the floor upon one level, the communion table standing in the midst and no rails, and thus it has been ever since the late wars'; Scholes and Pimblett, *Hist. of Bolton*, 158. A description of the church as it was in 1764, with an account of the custom as to the repairing of the building, is printed in the same work, p. 160.

¹⁰ Sir Stephen Glynne's description of the church in 1843; *Chet. Soc. Publ.* (new ser.), xxvii, 103. There is a fuller description of the building, with illustrations, in J. C. Scholes's *Hist. of Bolton* (1892), 123–213.

¹¹ The pieces have been reunited and the cross erected inside the present church, close to the door in the north aisle. See *V.C.H. Lancs.* i, 264; *Lancs. and Ches. Antiq. Soc.* xxii, 144.

¹² Four stones with lozenge pattern, one with round billet, one with chevron (now lost), and part of a double Early English cap (respond) with dog-tooth moulding.

¹³ All these stones are now preserved in a room in the tower, and are engraved in Scholes's *Hist. of Bolton*, 125–9.

¹⁴ Designed by Mr. E. G. Paley.

¹⁵ Height of nave to apex of roof, 73 ft. 9 in.

¹⁶ The plain portions of the tower and the lower part of the walls up to base-course all round the church are of stone from Bradshaw Quarry.

¹⁷ Scholes, *Bolton Ch. Organs* (1882).

¹⁸ In 1714 the church was 'surrounded on its south side by a vista of trees'; Book by 'A Traveller to the North' (no title stated), quoted by Whittle, *Hist. of Bolton*, 75, and by Scholes, *op. cit.* 141.

A HISTORY OF LANCASHIRE

It contains a monument to Samuel Crompton (died 1827), the inventor of the spinning-mule, who is buried there. The oldest stone in sight previous to the recent alterations was dated 1597.¹⁹

There is a ring of eight bells, five by Henry Bagley of Ecton, Northampton, 1699, and three by John Rudhall of Gloucester, 1806. The tenor bell has the motto, "I to the Church the living call, and to the grave doe summon all," and all have the name of the founder and date.

The plate consists of two patens of 1710, made by Richard Richardson of Chester, inscribed, 'This with another salver (A.D. 1712) of a chalice given to Bolton church by Mr. John Seede, of London, A.D. 1655'; two chalices of 1711, also of Chester make, inscribed, 'This and another chalice new made 1712 of a chalice given by Mr. Nath. Hulton, of London, to the parish of Boulton, Anno Dom. 1677';²⁰ a credence paten of 1713, with the mark of John Edwards, London; two flagons of 1716, inscribed, 'Hoc est Alterum Dono donavit Thomas Marsden, Armiger, 1716,' with the mark of John Fawdery; an almsdish of 1870, Birmingham make, given by Eliza wife of Peter Ormrod, in 1871; two silver-gilt chalices and patens of 1883, Birmingham make, the chalices inscribed 'Dedicated to the glory of God for the service of the parish church of Bolton by Henry Powell, vicar, St. Peter's Day 1884'; and a small visiting chalice of 1890.

There is also a beadle's staff with silver envelope and mountings, inscribed with the names of the borough-reeve and constable, 1812, and the arms of the family of Bolton and Bolton.

The registers begin in 1587. There are transcripts at Chester of the years 1573-4. They were in part printed in a local newspaper about 1883.

The tithe maps are kept in the vestry.^{20a}

The churchwardens' accounts date from 1656.

Humphrey Chetham left money for a church library, and some of the books are now at the grammar school.²¹

The church of Bolton appears to **ADVOWSON** have been given by the lord of the manor at an early date to the Gilbertine priory of Mattersey or Marsey, in Nottinghamshire, which was founded by Roger de Marsey before 1192.^{21a} The prior's right to the advowson was formally acknowledged in 1236,²² but a few years later the church was surrendered to the Bishop of Lichfield, the prior and convent reserving the right to present the vicars and receiving an annual payment of £10 down to the Dissolution.²³ The bishop founded a Bolton prebend in the cathedral of Lichfield, and annexed it to the archdeaconry of Chester; a small payment was also made to the vicars choral.²⁴ This arrangement continued until the see of Chester was formed by Henry VIII in 1541; the revenues of the archdeaconry, including the rectory of Bolton, were appropriated to the endowment of the bishopric,²⁵ to which the right of presenting the vicar was also given.²⁶ On the establishment of the bishopric of Manchester in 1847 the rectory was transferred to the new see.²⁷

On the foundation of the prebend at Lichfield a rent of £10 was reserved to the vicar of the church, who was also to have a suitable dwelling-house.²⁸ In addition there were surplice fees, but in 1718 the

¹⁹ Scholes, *Hist. of Bolton*, 192.

²⁰ The inscription on both the patens and chalices is misleading, in indicating that they were made in 1712, whereas the date-letters are those of Chester for 1710 and 1711. The pieces may have been in stock and given in exchange for the older vessels.

^{20a} Information of Mr. W. A. Bridson, parish clerk.

²¹ *Old Lancs. Librarians* (Chet. Soc.), 50.

^{21a} Dugdale, *Mon.* vii, 965.

²² *Final Conc.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), i, 75; the rector had probably died recently, and William, Earl Ferrers, and Agnes his wife claimed the presentation, as representing Randle, Earl of Chester, who had purchased all the Marsey estate in Lancashire.

The name of an early rector has been preserved, 'Henry, parson of Bolton,' being witness to a grant by the Prior of Birkenhead probably near the beginning of the 13th century, 'David, priest of Eccles,' being another witness; Towneley MS. C, 8, 13 (Chet. Lib.), L, 52; *Bracton's Note Bk.* 130 (1222).

A writ to the sheriff *De vi laica amovenda* was issued in 1247-8; Close, 62, m. 13 d.

²³ The grant by the Master of the Gilbertines and the Prior and convent of Marsey, made in 1252, has been printed, with other documents from the Lichfield Registers, by Scholes and Pimblett, op. cit. 93, &c. For the rent of £10 see Dugdale, *Mon.* vii, 966.

²⁴ The foundation of the prebend, with the simultaneous ordination of a vicarage at Bolton, is dated 31 March 1253. The archdeacon was to pay to the priory the above-mentioned rent of £10; to the church of Lichfield 100s. a year, in 'aug-

mentation of the daily distribution of the vicar ministering in the same church'; and to the vicar of Bolton £10. The new arrangement was to come into effect on the death or resignation of the then rector; Scholes and Pimblett, op. cit. 94. Confirmation was obtained from the chapters of Lichfield and Coventry, and from the pope; *ibid.* 95, 96. An apparently earlier record of this prebend of Bolton may be otherwise explained; see Dugdale, *Mon.* viii, 1257, 1258.

Accordingly, in 1291, the prebend of Bolton in Lichfield Cathedral was taxed at £13 6s. 8d., as held by the Archdeacon of Chester, and Bolton was omitted from the churches of the deanery of Manchester; *Pope Nich. Tax.* (Rec. Com.), 244.

In 1305 the tithes seem to have been farmed out for £36 19s.; this included 7s. for 'the fourth part of Lever,' perhaps Great Lever, in which township the church had a grant of land; Scholes and Pimblett, op. cit. 97, 98.

The church was in 1341 stated to be untaxed because it was annexed to the archdeaconry of Chester, but the value of the ninth of sheaves, &c., was returned as £8 16s. 8d., viz.: From Bolton, 53s. 4d.; Harwood with Bradshaw, 30s.; Edgeworth with Entwisle, 8s.; Turton, 24s.; Little Lever, 10s. 8d.; Lostock, 5s.; Blackrod, 26s. 8d.; Anglezarke, 2s. 8d.; Longworth, 3s. 4d.; and Rivington, 13s.; *Inq. Non.* (Rec. Com.), 39.

The value of the prebend was estimated at £13 6s. 8d. in 1535, and the £5 paid to the vicars choral appears; *Valor Eccl.* (Rec. Com.), v, 226; iii, 132, 136. In 1529 the archdeacon, William Knight, agreed to lease the rectory for sixty years to Alexander Lever for £40, the accustomed rent to be paid, but the bargain fell

through; Duchy of Lanc. Plead. xxix, L 2 (printed by Scholes and Pimblett, op. cit. 101-3). In 1539 the rectory was leased to Thurstan Tyldesley for sixty years at a rent of £26, the lessee also paying the pensions to the vicar of Bolton and the vicars choral of Lichfield; *ibid.* 104.

²⁵ *Ibid.* 106. In 1609 the bishop leased the rectory to James Anderton of Lostock, the old rent of £26 being payable. In 1670 Sir Orlando Bridgeman secured a lease, the full clear profits to go to the vicar of Bolton, and Sir John Bridgeman had a similar lease in 1698; the same family continued to hold the rectory similarly until recently. The Ecclesiastical Commissioners in 1840 came into possession of this and other episcopal estates, and from the expiry of the last lease have had the whole benefit of the rectory. Full details are given by Scholes and Pimblett, op. cit. 108-22. See also *Commonwealth Cb. Surv.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.) 30-4, giving the value in 1650.

²⁶ The bishop was patron in 1543; Scholes and Pimblett, op. cit. 242.

²⁷ That is, the rectory is held by the Ecclesiastical Commissioners for the benefit of the bishopric; and the bishop presents to the vicarage.

²⁸ Scholes and Pimblett, op. cit. 94. The vicar was to be 'a fit priest'; he was obliged to reside, having entire charge of the parish, and was to have a chaplain and other necessary ministers. The stipend of £10 and 3s. as the value of the house and garden are the only income recorded in 1535; *Valor Eccl.* (Rec. Com.), v, 226. In 1650 the vicar received about £9 from the sequestrators of the rectory, and £3 from the glebe land and six little cottages thereon, besides having the use of the house; *Commonwealth Cb. Surv.* 30.



BOLTON : OLD PARISH CHURCH, TAKEN DOWN 1866
(From a Photograph in the possession of the Bolton Corporation)



BOLTON : MARKET PLACE IN 1816
(From a Water-colour Drawing in the possession of the Bolton Corporation)

certified income was only £36.²⁹ By a lease of the rectory granted in 1740 the pension of the vicar was raised from £10 to £36, and a sub-lease of the whole

estate was made to the vicar.³⁰ More recently the Earl of Bradford endowed the vicarage with £100 a year,³¹ and the annual value is now stated to be £770.³²

The following is a list of the vicars :—³³

Institution	Name	Patron	Cause of Vacancy
oc. 1292 . . .	Alexander ³⁴	—	—
oc. 1302, 1310 .	Randle ³⁵	—	—
—	Ralph ³⁶	—	—
30 Sept. 1320 .	Richard de Warton ³⁷	Prior of Marsey . . .	d. Ralph
16 Oct. 1334 .	Thomas Azari ³⁸	"	res. R. de Warton
—	Thomas de Prestwold ³⁹	—	—
12 Oct. 1351 .	Randle de Bolton ⁴⁰	Prior of Marsey . . .	d. T. de Prestwold
25 Nov. 1373 .	Henry de Smetheley ⁴¹	"	d. Randle
oc. 1436 . . .	John de Coventry ⁴²	—	—
— Nov. 1469 .	William Parsyvall ⁴³	Prior of Marsey . . .	res. J. de Coventry
oc. 1474 . . .	Giles Lever ⁴⁴	—	—
19 Jan. 1503-4 .	James Smetheley ⁴⁵	Prior of Marsey . . .	d. G. Lever
c. 1514 . . .	James Bolton ⁴⁶	"	—
20 Oct. 1556 .	Thomas Pendlebury ⁴⁷	H. Ditchfield, &c. . .	d. J. Bolton
c. 1560 . . .	Edward Cockerell ⁴⁸	—	—
7 Aug. 1582 .	Alexander Smith ⁴⁹	Bernard Anderton . . .	d. Ed. Cockerell
10 June 1594 .	John Albright, M.A. ⁵⁰	Bishop of Chester . . .	d. A. Smith
— 1595 . . .	Zacharias Saunders, M.A. ⁵¹	—	res. J. Albright
29 Sept. 1598 .	Ellis Saunderson, M.A. ⁵²	Bishop of Chester . . .	res. Z. Saunders

²⁹ Gastrell, *Notitia*, ii, 6; the amount was thus made up:—House and glebe, £10; pension, £10; chief rents, 15s. 4d.; and surplice fees, £15 6s. 8d. The clear profits of the rectory, which by the lease of 1670 were to go to the vicar, are not accounted for; but a statement drawn up about the same time shows that they were worth over £40 clear; Scholes and Pimblett, *op. cit.* 114. Some twenty years later, however, the value is given as £167 10s.; *ibid.* 116.

A terrier compiled in 1696 is printed in the same work, 118.

³⁰ *Ibid.* 117. ³¹ *Ibid.* 121.

³² *Manch. Dioc. Dir.* 1910.

³³ There is an excellent account of the vicars in Scholes and Pimblett's work.

³⁴ Robert de Gidlow was in 1292 non-suited in a claim against Alexander, vicar of Bolton, concerning certain of his chattels which had been seized; Assize R. 408, m. 54.

³⁵ He occurs in deeds in the Lever Chartul. (Add. MS. 32103), no. 76, 79.

³⁶ He may be the same as Randle.

³⁷ Lich. Epis. Reg. i, fol. 88. He was a priest. In 1334 he became rector of Prestwich.

³⁸ *Ibid.* ii, fol. 110; a priest.

³⁹ He may be identical with Thomas Azari.

⁴⁰ Lich. Epis. Reg. ii, fol. 129. He is called a chaplain.

⁴¹ *Ibid.* iv, fol. 86b; a priest. His predecessor had died on the Saturday before All Saints' Day. A Robert de Lostock is mentioned as vicar of Bolton in 1360, but probably it was of some other place of that name; Kuerden MSS. iii, W 1, no. 66.

Henry de Smetheley was still vicar in 1411; Add. MS. 32104, no. 1209; also in 1419; Pal. of Lanc. Chan. Misc. bde. 1, file 14.

⁴² Lever Chartul. in an unnumbered deed (14 Hen. VI), between no. 207 and no. 208. In 1445 he was in mercy for various defaults; Pal. of Lanc. Plea R. 8, m. 11.

There appears to have been a dispute over his appointment, for a deed of 1461 among the Weld-Blundell muniments states that the Heaton family had received a corrody or livery from Marsey Priory on renouncing their claim to the patronage of Bolton Church, and that on the death of one Robert Heaton the prior had made terms with the heir by which the corrody was resigned and John Coventry was allowed to have the vicarage; *Ch. Gds.* 1552 (Chet Soc.), 29.

⁴³ Lich. Epis. Reg. xii, fol. 104b; a chaplain.

⁴⁴ He occurs as vicar in a Rivington deed of the year 1474 (?); Towneley MS. GG, no. 1717; also in a Weld-Blundell deed of 1486; *Church Gds.* 29; and in the same year he was a witness to the will of John Hulton of Farnworth; *Wills* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), 27.

⁴⁵ Lich. Epis. Reg. xiii-xiv, fol. 53; a chaplain. He was still vicar in April 1513, when he was one of the feoffees of John Barton of Smithills; Duchy of Lanc. Inq. p.m. iv, no. 82. James Bolton appears to have succeeded by 1516, when the will was made; *ibid.*

⁴⁶ In 1523 it was stated that James Bolton, priest, had been vicar for ten years, having been nominated by the Prior of Marsey; Scholes and Pimblett, *op. cit.* 240. His name occurs also in the *Valor* of 1535 (v, 220), as well as in the lists of 1541-2, 1548, and 1554. Particulars of his suits of the last date respecting tithes are printed in Scholes and Pimblett, *loc. cit.* A James Bolton was at Cambridge in 1503-4; *Grace Bk. B.* (Luard Mem.), 192.

⁴⁷ Church P. at Chet. Dioc. Reg. The bishop in 1543 granted the next presentation to George Wilmesley and Richard Smith, two of his officials, who next year transferred it to Hamnet Ditchfield of Chester, John Whitby, a vicar choral of St. John's Chester, and Richard Falkner, priest-chanter of the same church; see Scholes and Pimblett, *op. cit.* 242-5.

Thomas Pendlebury was ordained

priest in 1544; W. F. Irvine, *Ordin. Bk.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), 56.

⁴⁸ He was vicar in 1563, but at the time of the visitation was absent, 'with the Bishop of Durham'; Visit. List; see also *Ches. Sheaf* (ser. 3), i, 34. Ten years later it was reported that he had a pension of £5 6s. 8d. out of the late monastery of Gisburn (Guisborough), and another of £6 out of the late college of Bishop Auckland, and dwelt at Bolton; *Ch. Gds.* 25. It thus appears that he had been an Austin Canon; Ord. *Cleveland*, 192. Robert Lever, by his will of Aug. 1551, bequeathed 'unto the vicar of Bolton, Edward Cockerell, 3s. 4d., to pray for me'; *Wills* (Chet. Soc. new ser.), i, 221; but the date seems erroneous.

⁴⁹ Act Bks. at Chester. Smith paid first-fruits on 14 Feb. 1583-4; *Lancs. and Ches. Rec.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), ii, 410. He was 'a preacher,' but not 'painful'; S.P. Dom. Eliz. xxxi, 47. He was buried in the church 28 Dec. 1593; his wife followed on 10 May 1600.

⁵⁰ Scholes and Pimblett, *op. cit.* 248. He was of Christ's College, Cambridge, and then of Magdalene; M.A. 1588. He became a vicar choral of Christ Church, Dublin, in 1595, and Dean of Raphoe in 1603; Cooper, *Athenae Cantab.* ii, 527.

⁵¹ He was of St. John's College, Cambridge, and appointed master of Rivington School in 1589; Baker, *Hist. St. John's Coll.* (ed. Mayor), i, 431. He paid first-fruits 10 July 1595; *Lancs. and Ches. Rec.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), ii, 411.

⁵² He paid first-fruits 17 Feb. 1598-9; *ibid.* He graduated at Oxford (Brasenose College), M.A., 1592; Foster, *Alumni.* He was a native of Brightmet, and in religion a resolute Puritan. A full account of his career is given in Scholes and Pimblett, *op. cit.* 252-6, where a summary of his will is also given.

On 9 Aug. 1607 a licence was granted for the marriage of Ellis Saunderson, vicar of Bolton, and Margery Battersby of Bolton parish.

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Institution	Name	Patron	Cause of Vacancy
16 Dec. 1625	Robert Parke ⁵³	Bishop of Chester	d. E. Saunderson
27 Nov. 1630	William Gregge ⁵⁴	"	res. R. Parke
— 1644	John Harpur ⁵⁵	Parishioners	d. W. Gregge
25 Nov. 1657	Richard Goodwin, M.A. ⁵⁶	Trustees	d. J. Harpur
— 1662	Robert Harpur ⁵⁷	Bishop of Chester	ejec. R. Goodwin
10 Aug. 1671	Michael Stanford, M.A. ⁵⁸	"	res. R. Harpur
16 June 1673	John Lever ⁵⁹	"	res. M. Stanford
1 Dec. 1691	Peter Haddon, M.A. ⁶⁰	"	d. J. Lever
14 Sept. 1721	Thomas Morrall, M.A. ⁶¹	"	d. P. Haddon
23 Nov. 1737	Edward Whitehead, M.A. ⁶²	"	d. T. Morrall
4 May 1789	Jeremiah Gilpin, M.A. ⁶³	"	d. E. Whitehead
27 Nov. 1793	Thomas Bancroft, M.A. ⁶⁴	"	d. J. Gilpin
9 Mar. 1811	John Brocklebank, B.D. ⁶⁵	"	d. T. Bancroft
23 Sept. 1817	James Slade, M.A. ⁶⁶	"	res. J. Brocklebank
7 Feb. 1857	Henry Powell ⁶⁷	Bishop of Manchester	res. J. Slade
— 1887	James Augustus Atkinson, M.A. ⁶⁸	"	res. H. Powell
— 1896	Edwyn Hoskyns, M.A. ⁶⁹	"	res. J. A. Atkinson
21 Jan. 1902	Henry Henn, M.A. ⁷⁰	"	prom. E. Hoskyns
— 1909	Thomas Alfred Chapman, B.D.	"	prom. H. Henn

⁵³ A native of Bolton, and educated at Emmanuel College, Cambridge, he became a Nonconformist, and took refuge in Holland in 1630; he returned to Bolton in 1644 and was appointed lecturer, but expelled in 1662, after which he continued to minister to the Nonconformists of the district; Scholes and Pimblett, op. cit. 257-61. There is also a notice of him in *Dict. Nat. Biog.*

The institutions from this time have been compared with the list in *Lancs. and Ches. Antiq. Notes* from the Institution Bks. P.R.O.

⁵⁴ He was probably the William Gregge of Brasenose College, Oxford, who graduated as B.A. in 1622; Foster, *Alumni*. This vicar seems to have been appointed to restore some sort of discipline in the parish, a large number of excommunications taking place in the early years of his ministry. He died at the beginning of 1644. The church was then desecrated, being used as a military store-house; see Scholes and Pimblett, op. cit. 261-4. For pedigree, Ormerod, *Ches.* (ed. Helsby), ii, 34.

⁵⁵ He had been lecturer for some years. He was a Puritan, and appointed vicar by the election and consent of the people; he was 'a man of able parts and a godly preaching minister,' constantly preaching on Sundays, &c., but had not observed the fast appointed by Parliament in 1650; *Commonwealth Ch. Surv.* 30; Scholes and Pimblett, op. cit. 265-9. He signed the 'Harmonious Consent' in 1648 as 'pastor of Bolton.'

⁵⁶ He was admitted on a presentation from the Trustees for the Maintenance of Ministers; *Plund. Mins. Accts.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), ii, 173, 208. He was of Emmanuel College, Cambridge, and although ordained deacon 'after the Episcopal manner,' became a zealous adherent of the Presbyterian discipline. He refused to conform to the Prayer Book on the Restoration, and as the parishioners refused to pay Easter dues when the Lord's Supper was not celebrated, the farmer of the rectory complained to the bishop. He was expelled from the vicarage in Aug. 1662, and continued his labours under difficulties among the persecuted Nonconformists; Scholes and Pimblett, op. cit. 269-75. He signed the 'Harmonious Consent' in 1648 as 'minister of the Gospel at Bolton,' and was described by the 1650 Commissioners in the same terms as John Harpur.

⁵⁷ He was also lecturer, and seems to have had a troubled course; Scholes and Pimblett, op. cit. 275, 320.

⁵⁸ Ibid. 276. He was a fellow of Christ's College, Cambridge; M.A. 1661. He left Bolton for Aldingham in Furness.

⁵⁹ Scholes and Pimblett, op. cit. 276-8; he built the vicarage house. At the Revolution he was 'conformable'; *Hist. MSS. Com. Rep.* xiv, App. iv, 228.

⁶⁰ He graduated at Oxford (Wadham College and Hart Hall), M.A. 1687, and became vicar of Wolston, Warwick, his native place, in 1680; Foster, *Alumni*. 'A worthy, pious, and learned man,' according to the entry in the register. He was a cousin of Bishop Cartwright and had acted as his chaplain. In his time two galleries were erected, and other alterations and repairs made in the church; Scholes and Pimblett, op. cit. 278, 142.

⁶¹ He was of St. John's College, Oxford, and then of All Souls; M.A. 1699; Foster, *Alumni*.

The work of restoring the church fabric was continued by him, and a chapel of ease was built in Little Bolton; Scholes and Pimblett, op. cit. 279. Judith, his daughter and heir, married Richard Rothwell, rector of Sefton, and died in 1756, aged twenty-five; *Manch. School Reg.* (Chet. Soc.), ii, 49.

⁶² A *Memoir* of this vicar by James C. Scholes was printed at Bolton in 1889. He was educated at Balliol College, Oxford; M.A. 1736. He had a dispute with the parishioners in 1764 as to the liability to repair the chancel. He was made a justice of the peace in 1766, and a king's preacher in 1780; Scholes and Pimblett, op. cit. 280, 157; a portrait is given.

⁶³ He was educated at St. John's College, Cambridge; M.A. 1777. He was also curate of Broughton-in-Furness.

⁶⁴ He was one of the most distinguished vicars of Bolton, and has a memoir in *Dict. Nat. Biog.* He was educated at Manchester School and Brasenose College, Oxford, but failed to obtain a fellowship; M.A. 1784. He was appointed head master of the King's School, Chester. The story of his romantic marriage, and of his works as author and vicar, is given in Scholes and Pimblett, op. cit. 283-96, where there is also a portrait. Mr. Bancroft was one of the high churchmen of the time, and controverted the Calvinism of the Evangelical party.

⁶⁵ He was of Pembroke College, Cambridge; B.D. 1814. He left Bolton to become rector of Teversham, near Cambridge, remaining there from 1817 till his death in 1843, holding also the benefices of Melbourn and Willingham in succession.

⁶⁶ Educated at Emmanuel College, Cambridge, of which he became fellow; M.A. 1807. He was appointed canon of Chester in 1816 by his father-in-law, the Bishop of Chester, and next year exchanged the rectory of Teversham for Bolton with Mr. Brocklebank, and soon after was made one of the king's preachers. He held other benefices, being rector of West Kirby in Cheshire from 1829 till his death in 1860. He was a moderate Evangelical, and an active and liberal man, who earned the esteem of the inhabitants generally; Scholes and Pimblett, op. cit. 288-307. He published sermons, &c. There is a notice of him in *Dict. Nat. Biog.*

⁶⁷ He was educated at the Church Missionary College, London, and was from 1837 to 1844 a missionary in Ceylon. He was vicar of Bispham from 1851 to 1857. The rebuilding of Bolton Church took place while he was vicar. He was appointed to an honorary canonry at Manchester in 1868; see Scholes and Pimblett, op. cit. 307-10. He became rector of Eaglescliffe, Durham, in 1886.

⁶⁸ He is a son of James Atkinson, translator of the *Shâh Nâmeh* of Firdausi, and was educated at Eton and at Exeter College, Oxford; M.A. 1856. He was incumbent of Hollinwood, Oldham, from 1858 to 1861, when he was appointed rector of St. John's, Longsight. In 1884 he was made an honorary canon of Manchester. He became vicar of Gedney in 1896 and of St. Michael's, Coventry, in 1900. He has written a biography of his predecessor, Canon Slade.

⁶⁹ Educated at Jesus College, Cambridge; M.A. 1880; was rector of Stepney 1886 to 1896; hon. canon of Manchester 1899; consecrated Bishop of Burnley 1901; translated to Southwell 1904.

⁷⁰ The date is that of induction. Canon Henn was educated at Trinity Hall, Cambridge, of which he was a fellow; M.A. 1884. Honorary canon of Manchester 1903. Bishop suffragan of Burnley from 1909.

The stipend assigned to the vicarage was a liberal one when it was fixed, but as time went on the income from fees and offerings probably became more important. It was contemplated from the first that the vicar should have at least one assistant, and the later foundations of a chantry at Blackrod and of chapels in other parts of the parish assisted in the increase of the staff of resident clergy. In 1541-2, in addition to the vicar, his curate, and the chantry priest, three names appear on the list.⁷¹ Possibly there were others, for in 1548 eight were summoned to the bishop's visitation, and the same number in 1554.⁷² The subsequent religious changes were accompanied by a marked reduction in the staff; in 1563 the vicar was absent, as also was the curate of Rivington, the curate of Turton was decrepit, and the only other name recorded is that of the curate of Walmsley. Two years later the vicar was assisted by a 'reader'; the curates of Turton and Walmsley are the others named, the former being ill and the latter apparently on the point of leaving.⁷³

The extremer forms of Protestantism prevailed very quickly in the parish.⁷⁴ In 1592 there was no surplice even, but, in obedience to the bishop, one was purchased and worn by the vicar.⁷⁵ Ellis Saunderson, vicar from 1598 to 1625, was one of the Puritan ringleaders in the district.⁷⁶ He was a preacher himself, and had the assistance of a lecturer paid by the parishioners, and the chapels at Rivington and Turton

were both 'well supplied with ministry' in his time.⁷⁷ A further improvement in the number of the staff was shown in 1650, when there were not only the vicar and endowed lecturer at the parish church, but ministers at each of the chapels at Turton, Bradshaw, Blackrod, and Rivington, though Walmsley Chapel was vacant.⁷⁸

There was probably a relapse after the ejection of Richard Goodwin in 1662, sequestered 'delinquents' estates having ceased to furnish incomes for a large staff of preaching ministers.⁷⁹ Nonconformity at the same time made its appearance.⁸⁰ In 1691 the vicar, his curate, and the curate of Turton were the only clergy appearing at the visitation; Rivington about that time seems to have been vacant frequently.⁸¹ During the 18th century the growth of the population and the augmentation of the benefice appear to have been accompanied by a better and larger staff of clergy,⁸² and in the last century great additions were made to the number of churches and their ministers.

The 'chapel of our Blessed Lady' is named in a will dated 1539,⁸³ and the 'chapel of Jesus' in 1581;⁸⁴ but there was no endowed chantry at the parish church.

In 1622 a lectureship was partially endowed by the Rev. James Gosnell, who had himself acted as curate or preacher at Bolton for forty years.⁸⁵ He was a decided Puritan, and his benefaction was towards the yearly stipend of £30 of 'a preacher,

⁷¹ *Clergy List* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), 13; the three were probably chaplains at Bradshaw, Rivington, and Turton.

⁷² The list of ornaments of the church remaining in 1552, which included five suits of mass vestments, is printed in *Cb. Gds.* 23. The inscriptions on the old bells are given; *ibid.* 25.

⁷³ These details are from the Visitation Lists in the Diocesan Registry, Chester.

⁷⁴ Bolton was one of the places in which John Bradford preached in the time of Edward VI.

⁷⁵ W. Fergusson Irvine in *Lancs. and Ches. Antiq. Soc.* xiii, 59; the only chapel of ease mentioned is Blackrod.

⁷⁶ Scholes and Pimblett, *op. cit.* 253, 254; he was in 1605 presented for 'not residing in the parish, for not wearing a cloak or cassock, for not going the perambulation, and for marrying in private houses.' Four people of the town were at the Visitation of 1623-4 presented for killing flesh and exposing the same for sale in Lent; Raines MSS. (Chet. Lib.), xxii, 196.

⁷⁷ *Hist. MSS. Com. Rep.* xiv, App. iv, 11.

⁷⁸ *Commonwealth Ch. Surv.* 30-6.

⁷⁹ The people of the district remained attached to Presbyterianism. In reply to the Bishop of Chester's inquiries in 1665 it was stated that the church was in 'indifferent good repair,' but the chancel was not evenly flagged, and the communion table was not railed about. There was a chalice with covering (the gift of a Londoner), a flagon, and two pewter plates, but more communion plate was required. There was a stone font. The only vestment was 'a surplice, as is required.' The vicarage and churchyard were not in good condition. Interesting are the replies as to the vicar's conduct: 'He doth usually every Lord's Day call upon parents to prepare their children and servants and send them to be catechised. He catechised all that will come and would

prepare them for confirmation if their parents would give way. He laboureth to bring sectaries to the true religion. He is orthodox in doctrine and of a blameless conversation.' A list of excommunicated persons is given, and one of those not attending church. No terrier existed. An account of the charities is given; Consist. Ct. Rec. Chester.

⁸⁰ In 1665 it was reported to the Bishop of Chester that Humphrey Jones, clerk, a Nonconformist, prayed at the house of Richard Heywood in Little Lever; and that Oliver and Nathaniel Heywood, Nonconformist ubiquitaries, preached there; Visit. P. at Chester.

In 1666 the Common Prayer Book was stolen from the parish church, torn in pieces, and thrown into the street channel; and a Royalist magistrate like Sir Roger Bradshaw felt it necessary to keep a 'strict eye' on Bolton, as holding 'the same principles they had in the Rebellion'; *Pal. Note Bk.*

⁸¹ Stratford's Visitation List. In 1671 it was presented at the Visitation that the church windows were defective and the great chancel walls decayed; there was only one chalice, so that another had to be borrowed every sacrament; there were wanting a pulpit cloth, a book of canons, and a book for recording the names of 'strange preachers.'

In 1724 each of the six townships gave a churchwarden to the parish, the consent of the vicar being required in each election; Gastrell, *Notitia*, ii, 11.

⁸² Among the Chester Consistory Court Records is a return concerning Bolton, made in 1730. The church, churchyard, and vicarage were in good condition; a true terrier was safely kept. The vicar was resident, but had a living in another diocese. The curate was licensed, and had £30 a year. There was 'no place in our parish where papists resorted to hear mass. Dissenters were very numerous, but qualified with a teacher' accord-

ing to the Toleration Act. There were five consecrated chapels, all supplied by curates:—Rivington (patrons, the people), Blackrod (vicar), Walmsley (vicar), Turton (Samuel Chetham), and Bradshaw (Henry Bradshaw). The churchwardens were elected by the joint consent of vicar and parishioners, and made 'due provision for each communion on the first Sunday in every month.'

⁸³ *Wills* (Chet. Soc. new ser.), i, 221. In 1541 Robert Bolton of Little Bolton and others assembled and broke the chapel of Ralph Ashton in Bolton Church, called Our Lady's Chapel; *Pal. of Lanc. Writs of Assize*, Lent, 33 Hen. VIII. It was that on the south aisle of the chancel, later known as the Bridgeman or Bradford Chapel.

⁸⁴ *Wills* (Chet. Soc. new ser.), i, 85; the north chapel, belonging to the owners of Turton—Orrell and Chetham.

⁸⁵ This account of the lectureship and its founders is taken from Scholes and Pimblett's work, pp. 312-40, where a list of the lecturers is given. Mr. Gosnell, it appears, though 'persuaded the religion now [1622] established in this kingdom to be, concerning the substance of the articles of the doctrine of faith and sacraments, the only true religion of God by which men shall be saved,' was quite unyielding in 'the matter of formality,' and had consequently been several times censured by the bishop. In a letter written soon after he settled at Bolton he says: 'Here [in Lancashire] are great store of Jesuits, seminaries, masses, and plenty of whoredom. The first sort our sheriff [probably Sir E. Trafford, 1583-4] courseth pretty well. Other good news is that the Bishop of Canterbury has not yet, God be thanked, stung us with his articles, which in the south parts have so great power that, by report, they have quenched the Lord's lights nearly to the number of 200'; *op. cit.* 323, 324; Raines in *Notitia Cestr.* ii, 10.

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distinct from the vicar of Bolton, to preach in the parish church upon every Lord's Day and Monday.' Notwithstanding the proviso quoted, the vicar of Bolton has several times been lecturer also. An increase of stipend was secured by a bequest of 8 acres of land by William Hulme, 'the benefactor,' in 1691. The lecturers, who appear to have been usually nominated by the vicar, often acted as curates of Walmsley Chapel. In the last century the value of the 8 acres of the Hulme bequest very greatly increased, and in 1858 the Master of the Rolls sanctioned a scheme by which the salary of the lecturer was limited to £150 a year, the remainder being used for other ecclesiastical purposes. The lecturer is appointed by the vicar and the trustees of the Lectureship Estate.^{85a}

The endowed charities of Bolton **CHARITIES** are numerous and important.⁸⁶ For churches and chapels over £2,100 a year is distributed, the principal charity being the lectureship already mentioned. For schools £7,400 is available, including the grammar schools at Bolton

and Rivington and Farnworth High Style School, Dr. and Mrs. Chadwick's Infant Orphan Asylum, founded 1868, with an income of £2,266,⁸⁷ and Eden's Orphanage, founded 1872, with £1,755.⁸⁸ Medical relief and nursing charities have £1,450 a year, the greater part of which is the endowment of the Blair Hospital in Turton.⁸⁹ In addition about £550 a year is given to the poor in money or in kind. In nearly every case⁹⁰ the endowments are applicable to particular townships or parts of the parish. For Great and Little Bolton the principal charities are those of Thomas Greenhalgh,⁹¹ Stephen Blair,⁹² and John Popplewell.⁹³ Mrs Lum's almshouses are for widows and spinsters.⁹⁴ For Great Bolton there are endowments for cloth for the poor and for money doles,⁹⁵ and the same is the case in Little Bolton,⁹⁶ while for Brightmet there is a coal charity.⁹⁷ For the poor of Tonge, Haulgh, and Darcy Lever is the charity of Lawrence Brownlow, founded to secure a supply of corn during scarcity, but distributed in blankets and cloth.⁹⁸ For Rivington's poor Alice Lowe

^{85a} The new scheme for utilizing the lecturer's endowment is printed in Scholes and Pimblett's work, and the *End. Char. Rep.* for Bolton County Borough, 1904, pp. 65-70. About £1,000 a year is distributed from the fund; the gross income is much more.

⁸⁶ For the older charities see Gastrell, *Notitia*, ii, 15, 17, 22, 25. The summary and notes here given are from the *End. Char. Rep.* for Bolton County Borough, 1904, and for the rest of the parish, also 1904; in these reports is reprinted the report made by the Charity Commissioners in 1828.

⁸⁷ The buildings are situated in Haulgh. The orphanage is primarily for girls, fifty being maintained at once; the religious instruction usually was to be 'upon Protestant principles in conformity with the Church of England'; each girl on leaving receives an outfit costing about £10.

⁸⁸ Founded by James Eden of Lytham, who died in 1874. The building is in Little Bolton, and provides for fifty boys and about thirty girls; the religious instruction was to be upon Protestant principles.

⁸⁹ This hospital was founded by Stephen Blair in 1870, but the building was not erected till 1882; it accommodates thirty patients.

Bolton Infirmary has some endowments; and £12 a year to it is paid from the Marsden and Popplewell Educational Charity on account of the old dispensary, now merged in the infirmary. From Greenhalgh's Charity £2 2s. is paid yearly to Manchester Infirmary.

Out of the Shaw Charities for Rivington £25 is paid for medical assistance, and, in addition, subscriptions are given to various hospitals.

⁹⁰ For the parish in general are the benefactions of James Lomax, including £1 among forty poor housekeepers attending the Whit Sunday sermon, but now distributed among the poor of Brightmet and Harwood; and of Nathaniel Hulton, 1691, for the benefit of Protestant Dissenters, and for teaching children the Assembly's catechism, or the like; the greater part of the income of £524 is now given to the grammar school and girls' scholarships. The Charity of John Guest seems to have failed, so far as Bolton is concerned. James Gosnell, in endowing the lectureship in 1622, directed

that one-sixth of the gross income was to be given to the poor, half to Bolton and the other half to Little Lever; the poor's share is now £11 13s. 10d. The Poor Protection and Benevolent Society has £10 a year, left by Thomas Glaister in 1896.

Jane Astley in 1734 left £60 for clothing for the poor attending some Protestant place of worship; £3 is now given in doles of flannel, &c., to persons attending the Unitarian Chapel, Bank Street.

Mrs. Mary Ann Briggs in 1883 left part of her estate to the same chapel, and from it £2 12s. 2d. is given to the poor.

⁹¹ This benefactor by his will of 1894 left endowments for All Souls' Church and Sunday Schools, and £1,350 for the poor of the district, irrespective of religious denomination, to be distributed in wearing apparel by the vicar and churchwardens.

He made similar provision for the poor of the ecclesiastical district of the Saviour.

⁹² Founded in 1868 for the benefit of St. John's Church, Little Bolton; part of the endowment is to provide winter clothing for poor persons attending the church.

⁹³ John Popplewell in 1820 gave £4,200 stock to provide for the care of his grave, an annual service and sermon in the parish church, and clothing and bread for the poor. The recipients are selected by the Church of England clergy of Great and Little Bolton, and number about ninety men and 205 women; they receive bread to the value of £15, and clothing worth about £140.

⁹⁴ Mrs. Elizabeth Lum built six cottages in Anchor Street, Little Bolton, and endowed them with a small estate; they were opened in 1839, and were transferred to the present site at Astley Bridge in 1886. The trustees are the ministers and certain members of three Nonconformist chapels in Bolton, and the beneficiaries are to be sixty years of age, preference being given to those who are 'decidedly pious and regularly (if able) attend places of worship where the gospel is preached.' The gross income is £48, and there are twelve occupants, two in each house, receiving 1s. a week, and coal, gas, and water free.

⁹⁵ Some of the greater benefactions have been mentioned already. Hannah Cromp-

ton in 1784 left money for linen for the poor of Great Bolton; the annual dividends now amount to £4 8s. 4d. Thomas Cocker in 1774 made a similar gift; the income is now £4 16s. a year. Richard Aspidell in 1800 left £100 for a like purpose; the trustees of the Wesleyan chapel in Ridgway Gate receive a rent-charge of £5 15s. 2d. representing this charity, and it is spent in doles of drabnet. The benefactions of Adam Mort, 1630, and Thomas Mort, 1732, of Astley, now produce about £7 5s. a year for the poor of Bolton township; it is distributed in money doles.

Sums of £5 and £2 were annually received in 1828 in respect of gifts by Ann Parker and an unknown donor; but both ceased on the death of John Albinson, who then paid them.

⁹⁶ Mary Stones in 1764 left money for an annual sermon, a dole of linen cloth, and a gift of 6d. each to poor widows and others. Down to 1898 at least £3 was paid to the vicar of Bolton from the Harwood Lodge estate, and added to the poor fund for food and clothing. James Greenhalgh in 1780 left money for linen cloth for the poor; the income, now £2 4s. 4d., is distributed in doles of cloth by the incumbents of St. Augustine's, Tonge, and St. George's, Little Bolton. Some smaller gifts for the poor and for doles of linen cloth had been lost before 1828.

⁹⁷ Thomas Seddon in 1894 left money for coal to be distributed by the vicar and churchwardens of St. James's among twelve poor families; the interest amounts to £4 8s. 4d.

A linen charity, founded by Mrs. Ann Parker, was discontinued about 1808.

⁹⁸ Lawrence Brownlow in 1630 gave a granary to trustees, together with £40, to buy corn, which they were to store up and sell to the poor at a cheap rate in times of scarcity. This does not seem to have been practicable, and in 1828 a distribution of linen cloth had long been customary, one-eighth being appropriated to Darcy Lever. The premises belonging to the trust were the inn then called the Starkey's Arms, and formerly known as the Almshouse. The income, which in 1828 was £32, has now reached £134, and is distributed to about 280 persons in doles of blankets, drabnet, and flannel.

Little Lever has a share of James Gosnell's Charity, now £3 18s. a year.

and John and George Shaw have made benefactions.⁹⁹ For Blackrod is the gift of John Popplewell, and there are bread and calico doles.¹⁰⁰ For Turton are the charities of Abigail and Humphrey Chetham, John Popplewell, and Nathaniel Wilson;¹⁰¹ while there are smaller sums for Entwisle¹⁰² and Harwood.¹⁰³ A number of ancient endowments have been lost.

GREAT BOLTON

Bothelton, 1212; Botelton, 1257; Boulton, 1288, and common; Bolton, 1307, and common.

This township,¹ which contains the parish church and about half the town of Bolton-le-Moors, has an area of 825½ acres,² and is bounded on the north and east by the River Croal, flowing east and south-east to join the Irwell. The surface is comparatively level, though rising towards the south-west, except for the clough or steep-banked valley through which the Croal flows. The population, including that of Haulgh, in 1901 was 53,506.

Formerly the south-western part of the township was occupied by the moor, and the first habitations sprang up along the course of the stream, the church standing above it at the point where its course changed from east to south. There were two noted wells, the memory of which is preserved in Silverwell Street and Spa Road.³ From the church the road from Little Bolton leads westward by Church Bank, Church Gate, and Deansgate, from which the roads to Chorley and Deane branched off. This main street is crossed, about 200 yards from the church, by the road from

Manchester leading north by Bradshaw Gate and Bank Street into Little Bolton. At their crossing was the old market-place,⁴ with its cross. From Deansgate Bridge Street leads northward across the Croal, and in 1874-7 another high level road across was formed, further west, and called Marsden Street. The new market-place, 1824, more recently called Town Hall Square and Victoria Square, is to the south of Deansgate.⁵ Here stands the new Town Hall, and close at hand are the markets and other municipal buildings. From the west end of Deansgate, Moor Lane leads south, and branches out west and south-west as Deane Road and Derby Street. To the west of Moor Lane are the districts called Bullfield, Gilnow, and Pocket. From the junction of Moor Lane and Derby Street, Weston Street and Great Moor Street lead north-east to Bradshaw Gate, and Crook Street and Trinity Street⁶ eastward across the railway station to the bridge over the Croal, leading into Haulgh. To the south of Crook Street were the Lecturer's Closes, now chiefly occupied by a goods station. Rosehill lies to the south-east of the town, by the river.

Trinity Street Station of the Lancashire and Yorkshire Railway Company has been mentioned; it was opened in 1871. From it runs south the line to Manchester, with a branch to Bury through Rosehill; to the north and west the lines to Preston and Liverpool, with a branch turning north-west by the church to Blackburn. The London and North Western Company has a terminus in Great Moor Street; from this its lines run south to Worsley and Manchester, with a westward branch to Kenyon.⁷

⁹⁹ The Shaw Charities are shared by four townships—Rivington, Anglezarke, Heath Charnock, and Anderton; the available income is about £185. Rachael Charnley's gift of 6s. 8d. a year, formerly distributed with Shaw's Charity, has been lost since 1867, recent owners repudiating any liability.

Miss Alice Lowe of Blackpool left a fund for the poor, now producing nearly £16 a year; this is distributed in money, coals, and clothing by the trustees.

¹⁰⁰ The Popplewell Charities for the poor are now represented by £1,100 for a bread charity, and £400 for a blanket charity; the recipients must be regular attendants at church.

A number of benefactions, chiefly of the 17th and 18th centuries, made up a sum of £190 by 1803, which, with £20 given for cloth by Robert Aston in 1728, and £110 for bread and cloth by John Ainscough in 1812, was in 1815 invested in Government Stock, producing about £15 a year for the poor. An estate called the Bent was also charged with 4s. a year by Edward Pilkington in 1644. Part of the money was in 1828 distributed in sixpenny loaves, but most of it in doles of flannel or linen given on St. Stephen's Day. A new scheme was made in 1857, and of the income 20s. 6d. is distributed in sixpenny loaves on St. Stephen's Day, and the same amount on St. John's Day, while over £7 is on the former festival given in doles of calico.

A benefaction of £100 by Edward Holt in 1741, and two smaller ones, were said to be lost in 1828, but at present £5 a year has long been paid to the vicar of Blackrod by the agent of the Leigh estate, Hindley, and is customarily distributed in bread on fifty Sundays in the year. It is supposed this may be the Holt Charity;

the earliest recorded payment was in 1788.

¹⁰¹ Abigail Chetham in 1690 left money for the clothing of four poor boys; it was invested in the purchase of Haslam Hey in Elton, and the rent, amounting in 1828 to £28, was then used in the clothing and education of six boys; the rent has now fallen to £8, and four boys are clothed. Canon Raines (*Notitia*, ii, 25) says that Gervase Chetham, the nephew of Abigail, was the real donor.

Humphrey Chetham in 1748 gave certain lands in Turton called Goose Coat Hill, &c., for the benefit of poor persons not relieved from the rates. The income was in 1828 distributed in doles of linen. The estate was sold in 1864 for £1,700, and the capital given to the official trustees; the income, now £49 12s. 8d., is distributed in doles of calico, flannel, blankets, and sheets.

John Popplewell in 1820 gave money for a bread charity; shilling loaves were to be distributed to the poor who regularly attended church. The income is now £10 16s. 8d., and is spent on bread, but attendance at church is not regarded.

Nathaniel Wilson in 1877 left £200 for keeping the family grave at Walmsley Church in good order, and then for the poor of the chapelry. The vicar receives the interest and distributes it in money doles at his discretion.

¹⁰² James Brandwood of Charnock Richard in 1762 left £100 for the poor stock of Entwisle; in 1828 the interest, £4 10s., after being improperly used to relieve the poor rate, was to be applied to the purchase of linen for the poor. The income is now only £2 13s. 4d. a year, and is expended each alternate year in doles of flannel and calico.

An unknown donor or donors left £9 to

the poor, which in 1828 was used like the last charity. The capital remained intact until 1888, when the trustee absconded.

¹⁰³ The Rev. Richard Goodwin in 1684 left £5 a year to the poor, afterwards altered to a sum of £50 for Bolton and £50 for Harwood; and the Rev. Samuel Brooks in 1698 left £100. No trace of the charities could be discovered later than 1732. From the foundation of Joshua Lomax £1 is given to the poor of Harwood.

¹ Most of the details given in the following account of the modern town are taken from Scholes and Pimblett, *Hist. of Bolton*, 1892; and Clegg, *Chronological Hist. of Bolton*, 1879. The township ceased to exist in 1895, when the new township of Bolton was created; Loc. Govt. Bd. order 33407.

² The area, as increased by changes of boundaries, was 1,096 acres in 1901, including 30 of inland water.

³ For the Spa in 1814 see *Bolton Hist. Gleanings*, ii, 331.

⁴ The market was held there till 1826, when it was removed to the new market square. The fish market was held there till 1855, when the market hall was opened.

⁵ Old Hall Street runs from Deansgate to Victoria Square.

⁶ About this point was Sweet Green, said to have been named from the prevalence of wild camomile. 'Parson Folds,' the eccentric lecturer of the parish church, lived there; Pilling Well was in the same district.

⁷ A railway from Bolton to Leigh was opened in 1828; those from Bolton to Kenyon in 1831, to Manchester 1838, to Preston 1843, to Blackburn 1848, to Worsley and Manchester 1875. For the earliest of these lines see *Bolton Hist. Gleanings*, i, 51, 359; for the 1838 line, *ibid.* ii, 1.

A HISTORY OF LANCASHIRE

Apart from the municipal buildings and churches the most noticeable are the Spinners' Hall, theatre, Conservative Club, and infirmary. Near the southern boundary is a recreation ground; close by is the Pike. Bolton Park, opened in 1866, though on the north bank of the Croal, is mostly within Great Bolton; there is a recreation ground on the opposite or south bank. The infirmary adjoins the park.⁸

Digging sea coal at Bolton is named in 1374.^{8a} The woollen manufacture and other handicrafts seem there to have found a home early. Leland, about 1536, says:—'Bolton-upon-Moor market standeth most by cottons and coarse yarn. Divers villages in the moors about Bolton do make cottons [woollens]. Neither the site nor ground about Bolton is so good as it is about Bury. They burn at Bolton some cannel, but more sea coal, of which the pits be not far off. They burn turf also.'⁹ A deputy aulnager was ordered to be appointed at Bolton in 1566,¹⁰ and the town appears to have prospered.

In religion, though some few of the neighbouring gentry remained attached to the ancient faith, the people of Bolton soon became Protestant and inclined to the extreme party, so that in the 17th century the town was regarded as the Geneva of Lancashire.¹¹ During the Civil War, therefore, it naturally took sides against the king, giving assistance to Sir John Seaton, and suffered three different assaults from the Royalists. The first took place on 16 February 1642-3, when Colonel Assheton and his force, to the number of 500, were attacked by Lord Derby's forces from Wigan, by way of Bradshaw Gate. The outworks were taken, but the protection of a mud wall and chain sufficed for the defenders; though gallantly attacked again and again for four hours, they succeeded in driving off the Royalists, who returned to Wigan.¹² A year later a second attack was made. On the evening of 28 March 1644, Lord Derby, after summoning the town to surrender, made two assaults, but his men were each time compelled to retire. Two months later, 27 May, Prince Rupert and Lord Derby, with an army of 10,000 men or more, attacked the town, defended by Colonel Rigby, who had withdrawn his troops from Lathom. The first assault was repulsed with loss; but Lord Derby, eager to avenge the long siege of Lathom, led a second attack at the head of a body of picked men, while Prince Rupert attacked the town from another side. The defenders were outmatched and the town was taken, Colonel Rigby flying into Yorkshire. The Royalists were said to have used their advantage with great cruelty, refusing quarter¹³ and desolating the town.

It was on this account that the Earl of Derby's execution in 1651 was ordered to take place at Bolton. He was accordingly beheaded there on a scaffold erected by the market cross. The people of the town appear to have sympathized with him, and a tumult had to be forcibly quelled by the soldiery.¹⁴

The Man and Scythe Inn, the house where the earl is said to have rested a little before his execution, still stands on the south side of Church Gate, near the old market-place: a low two-story building with modern blue-slatted roof, substantially the same as when rebuilt in 1638, though in some degree modernized and repaired. The date of rebuilding, together with the initials A.W., occurs on a stone over the old kitchen fireplace. Two relics of the earl are preserved in the house—a triangular-seated chair on which, according to a brass plate on the back, the earl sat 'immediately prior to his execution,' and a two-handled tankard out of which he is said to have drunk, which also bears an inscription.

The cotton manufacture is said to have been introduced about 1650. Bolton soon revived,¹⁵ and in 1673 was thus described:—'Seated on the River Irwell, a fair, well-built town, with broad streets, hath a market on Mondays, which is very good for clothing and provisions; and it is a place of great trade for fustians.'¹⁶ Some Protestant artisans, driven from France by Louis XIV, are said to have settled in Bolton in 1685, to the advantage of its manufactures.¹⁷ It was not directly affected by the Jacobite risings of 1715 and 1745. The people were rude and violent,¹⁸ and the 'barbarous customs' of the place were noticed at the beginning of last century.¹⁹ The improvement that had then taken place was attributed to the rise of the Sunday school, for in a place where even young children worked all the week round, Sunday was the only day for teaching. These schools began about 1770, that of the Wesleyans being famous. There were numerous charitable institutions, the dispensary being established in 1814. The Mechanics' Institution was founded in 1825. By that time the outward aspect of the town had also improved, the inclosure of the moor in 1792 enabling a great advance to be made. Horse-racing²⁰ and cock-fighting were among the amusements. In 1793 and 1794 companies of Marines and Infantry Volunteers were raised in view of the national dangers.²¹ The later volunteer movement readily found a response in the town, a company being formed in 1859—largely multiplied since then.²²

The trade of the town continued to make advances in spite of occasional years of adversity. Dr. Aikin in

⁸ The infirmary is a development of the old dispensary.

^{8a} De Banco R. 455, m. 395 d.

⁹ *Itin.* vii, 57.

¹⁰ Stat. 8 Eliz. cap. 12.

¹¹ 'Poor and pious Bolton'; *Civil War Tracts* (Chet. Soc.), 128.

¹² The accounts of these events are printed in Scholes and Pimblett, op. cit. 399-418; also *Civil War Tracts*, 77, 81, 128 (first attack), 133 (second), 188-98 (third); *War in Lancs.* (Chet. Soc.), 22 (first), 50-2 (third). On the alleged murder of Captain Bootle by the Earl of Derby see *ibid.* 134-42.

¹³ The account in Seacome's *House of Stanley* states that quarter was at first refused because Prince Rupert learned that the defenders had killed some of his

soldiers taken prisoners in the first attack.

¹⁴ *Civil War Tracts*, 321; *War in Lancs.* 82-5; see also *Stanley Papers* (Chet. Soc.), pt. 3, and Seacome, op. cit. For a curious incident see *Lancs. and Ches. Hist. and Gen. Notes*, iii, 9.

¹⁵ For several tokens issued 1651-67 see *Lancs. and Ches. Antiq. Soc.* v, 74.

¹⁶ Blome, *Britannia*, quoted by Baines.

¹⁷ Baines, *Lancs.*

¹⁸ Oliver Heywood has a story of 'a monstrous, prodigious, barbarous murder' in 1665, arising out of the rejoicings over the repulse of the Dutch; it was 'audaciously huddled up by the justices and others'; *Diaries*, iii, 94.

John Wesley, after a rough reception at Rochdale in 1749, went to Bolton, and

found 'the lions at Rochdale lambs in comparison with those at Bolton. Such rage and bitterness I scarce ever saw before in any creatures that bore the form of men'; Scholes and Pimblett, op. cit. 357 (quoting Wesley's *Journal*).

¹⁹ Baines, *Lancs. Dir.* i, 537.

²⁰ Races took place in 1752.

²¹ Scholes and Pimblett, op. cit. 447-53; *Local Gleanings Lancs. and Ches.* i, 255. Light Horse Volunteers were raised in 1798, and disbanded in 1816. A Yeomanry troop was formed in 1819.

²² At present the 9th Lancs. Royal Garrison Artillery (Volunteers), with three batteries, have head quarters in Silverwell Street; the 2nd V.B. Loyal North Lancs. Regiment, twelve companies, have head quarters at their barracks in Fletcher Street.

1795 wrote: 'This original seat of the cotton trade is still the centre of the manufacture of ornamental or fancy goods. It is only by emigrants from this place that any branches of this trade have been transplanted elsewhere; but the most ingenious part of the workmanship still remains rooted as it were to the soil, and flourishes even amidst present discouragements so far that the poor suffer less here than in any of the surrounding districts. The muslin trade is that which seems to answer best at present. Since the opposition of the populace to the use of machines for shortening labour has been quelled by convincing them of their utility, spinning factories have been erected throughout all the surrounding country, especially where water is plentiful. The streams near Bolton are too near sources to furnish the water that large works require; there are few, therefore, in the neighbourhood of the larger kind, though several of the smaller. Much water is also occupied by the bleachers, who have extensive crofts here. . . . The want of water in this district is made up by the ingenious invention of the machines called mules, or Hall-in-the-Wood wheels,' by Samuel Crompton. Sir Richard Arkwright, another great inventor, was for a time a barber in Church Gate, and there devised his improvements.²³

In 1807 Bolton was described as 'noted for its medicinal waters, and more so for its manufactures of fustians and counterpanes, dimities and muslins. . . . It stands amid dreary moors. . . . Market on Monday.'²⁴

Cotton-spinning and the various branches of the manufacture, together with bleaching works, have continued to prosper. Bolton Exchange was opened in 1829. The Bolton and Manchester Canal, for which an Act was obtained in 1791, helped in the development, as did the railways, already projected in 1825, and opened in 1828 and later years. At present, in addition to the many great cotton factories there are in Great Bolton important iron and steel works and machine factories, where boilers, steam engines, &c., are made; also breweries, saw-mills, leather works, and other industries.

The market is now open daily, but Monday remains one of the chief days for business. A number of fairs are held; the old fair in July is kept up on the last Wednesday in that month and the following day; another is held on the second Wednesday and Thursday in October; the dates of these were in 1824 31 July and 14 October, a cattle fair being held on the preceding days.

Beyond the fragments of crosses in the church,

there are no remains of any great antiquity in the town. The market cross was removed in 1786. The pillory was last used in 1818.²⁵

A printing press is said to have existed as early as 1761.²⁶ The first newspaper, the *Bolton Herald*, was established in 1813.²⁷ At present there are two daily evening papers, the *Chronicle* and *Evening News*; the former, founded in 1870, has a larger Saturday issue, and the latter (1887) also has one called the *Journal and Guardian*. The *Cricket and Football Field* is printed at Bolton, and there is a monthly paper, the *British Sheaf*.

Prince Albert visited some local mills in 1851, and King Edward VII, when Prince of Wales, opened the new town hall in 1873.

A statue of Samuel Crompton stands in Nelson Square, and one of Dr. Chadwick in Victoria Square.

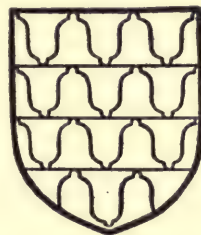
Among the minor events in the town's history may be mentioned the activities of the Resurrection men about 1829;²⁸ appearances of the plague in 1623, cholera in 1832 and 1848-9, and typhus in 1847; the Murphy No-Popery riots of 1868; the anti-Republican riot of 1871; and the municipal scandal of 1875.

'Jannock,' a word of approval, is said to have been the name of the oat bread which was at one time the universal diet of the Bolton artisans.

Owing to the paucity of records it is impossible to give a full account of the descent of the manor of BOLTON. This

formed part of the fee of the Marsey family,²⁹ as is shown by the descent of the advowson of the church, and so passed to Ranulf, Earl of Chester, and his heirs the Ferrers, Earls of Derby.³⁰ On the forfeiture of the latter in 1266 Bolton escaped, having been granted by Robert de Ferrers to his brother William,³¹ after whose death in 1287 it was found to be held of Edmund, Earl of Lancaster, by doing suit to Salford Wapentake court from three weeks to three weeks and to the county court from six weeks to six weeks.³² In the time of Henry VIII Bolton did suit to Penwortham.³³

Shortly after 1287, but by what title is unknown, the manor was held by Margaret, sister of Sir Robert de Holland, and on her death divided among her four



FERRERS, Earl of Derby. Vairy or and gules.

²³ Aikin, *Country round Manch.* 262-4. At one time, it is said, the manufactures were sold at Bolton, but this part of the trade was gradually drawn to Manchester; Baines, *Lancs. Dir.* i, 534. Cotton velvets are stated to have been made at Bolton in 1756, and muslins and cotton quiltings in 1763; *ibid.*

²⁴ *Lancs. and Ches. Hist. and Gen. Notes*, iii, 115, from the *Universal Gazetteer*.

²⁵ For the pillory see *ibid.* iii, 100.

²⁶ *Local Gleanings Lancs. and Ches.* i, 21, 30.

²⁷ For an account of the local newspapers see *Bolton Hist. Gleanings*, i, 68.

²⁸ One Hannah was convicted in 1830; he had stolen seven bodies from Bolton.

²⁹ *Lancs. Inq. and Extents* (Rec. Soc.

Lancs. and Ches.) i, 71; the services due from this part of the fee appear to have been divided among the dependent manors. Several of the later inquisitions state the manor to be held of the lords of Manchester, but this seems to be an error. It was Penwortham rather.

³⁰ See *V.C.H. Lancs.* i, 296. With the 'manor of Bolton' went lands in Little Bolton, Tonge, Haulgh, Brightmet, Sharples, &c.; Ormerod, *Cheshire* (ed. Helsby), i, 37. The later manor of Little Bolton had as dependencies Haulgh and part of Tonge, together with certain 'detached portions' north of Astley Brook, which were probably the Sharples lands of the charter quoted.

³¹ William de Ferrers' estates were confiscated, but afterwards restored to him by

the king. There is an account of the family in Collins, *Peerage* (ed. 1779), vi, 331-7; also in G.E.C. *Complete Peerage*.

³² *Inq. and Extents*, i, 268. There were in Bolton 69 burgages, each rendering 12d. a year; John de Halliwell held 43 acres and a burgage, worth 20s.; 36 acres of land were worth 5d. a year each. The tolls of fair and market were valued at 43s.; the water-mill at 20s.; but the pleas and perquisites of the court were worthless, on account of the poverty of the tenants. The whole value of the manor was therefore £8 7s. a year. Nicholas de Segrave had the custody of lands during the minority of the heir; *Cal. Pat.* 1281-92, p. 295.

³³ *Ducatus Lanc.* (Rec. Com.), i, 213.

A HISTORY OF LANCASHIRE

daughters and heirs.³⁴ The eldest, Alice, married Sir Robert de Shireburne, and the fourth part assigned to her descended with the Shireburne estates³⁵ till 1632, when it was sold by Richard son of Richard Shireburne and Elizabeth his wife, to Roger Lever,³⁶ descending in this family till the end of the 18th century.³⁷

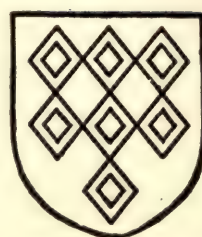
The second daughter, Agnes, was twice married, but appears to have had no children; and in 1336



SHIREBURNE. *Argent a lion rampant vert.*

as a widow, she settled her share of the manor upon the children of her sister Katherine.³⁸

The third daughter, Joan, married Sir Thomas de Arderne, and had issue; but the fourth part, which should have descended to the heirs of this family, seems to have been recovered about 1360 by the heir of the above-named William de Ferrers,³⁹ and descended in the line of Ferrers of Groby till the



FERRERS of Groby. *Gules seven masles conjoined or.*

³⁴ *Whalley Coucher* (Chet. Soc.), iv, 1085; Whitaker, *Whalley*, ii, 30. The proof that Margaret de Holland held Bolton in her own right is to be found in the descent of it. Some further particulars are given in the account of Chorley; the title in each case may have been the same.

³⁵ Robert son of Robert de Shireburne 'put in his claim' in a settlement of part of the manor in 1331; *Final Conc.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), ii, 81. This fourth part of the manor occurs regularly in the Shireburne inquisitions. In that after the death of Richard Shireburne in 1441 it is stated to have been held of the king as duke in socage, and worth 100s. a year clear; *Lancs. Rec. Inq. p.m.* no. 30, 31; see also *Lancs. Inq. p.m.* (Chet. Soc.), ii, 52. In 1506 and 1514 the estate in Chorley and Bolton was said to be held of Thomas Hesketh (and Roger Dalton) in socage by a rent of 5s.; *Duchy of Lanc. Inq. p.m.* iii, no. 92; iv, no. 46. In 1528 and 1537 the tenure is described as 'of the king as of the honour of West Derby in socage by the rent of one red sparrow-hawk'; *ibid.* vi, no. 65; viii, no. 33. Later, in 1594 and 1629, the tenure of Bolton is described simply as in socage of the Crown; *ibid.* xvi, no. 3; xxvi, no. 4. For the descent see the account of Stonyhurst in Aighton.

³⁶ *Pal. of Lanc. Feet of F. bdlc.* 121, m. 44. The estate is described as the manor of Bolton-in-the-Moors, with ten messuages, &c., lands, 19s. 7½d. rent, and views of frankpledge. Richard Shireburne and Elizabeth his wife were the vendors, and gave a warranty against the heirs of Richard Shireburne, deceased, father of the former.

³⁷ Alexander Lever, who was perhaps the son of Robert Lever (*Wills*, Chet. Soc. [new ser.] i, 221, and see p. 220), as a minor made a claim against Roger Walmersley in 1569; *Ducatus Lanc.* (Rec. Com.), ii, 378. He died on 1 Jan. 1613-14, holding sixteen messuages, twenty-six cottages, 16 acres of land, &c., in Bolton of Richard Shireburne, Ralph Assheton, and Jane Ainsworth, widow; Roger his son and heir was twenty-six years of age; *Lancs. Inq. p.m.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), i, 282. Alexander Lever had in 1582 purchased three messuages, &c., in Bolton from Roger Walmersley (or Walmesley) and Roger his son and heir apparent; *Pal. of Lanc. Feet of F. bdlc.* 44, m. 178. He was returned as a freeholder in 1600, being described as 'of Chamber'; *Misc.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), i, 248. Chamber was in Great Bolton.

Roger Lever of Chamber paid £10 in 1631 on refusing knighthood; *ibid.* i, 216.

Thomas Lever of Chamber and Alexander his son were enrolled at the Preston

Gild of 1662; *Preston Guild R.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), 148, 191. Other sons were Thomas and John; the latter was vicar of Bolton from 1673 till his death in 1691, and had several children; Scholes and Pimblett, *Bolton*, 276, 277; Foster, *Alumni Oxon.* The will of Thomas Lever was proved in 1685. A later Thomas's will was proved in 1705.

Afterwards a third of the Lever portion came to the Blackburnes of Hale, as will be shown later, and the other two-thirds seems to have descended with the heir male, being held in 1746 by Samuel Lever, clerk, who was a son of John Lever, sometime vicar of Bolton, and died in 1754. He had a son Thomas. See Scholes and Pimblett, *Bolton*, 325-7; Foster, *Alumni Oxon.* Mr. W. Fergusson Irvine gives the Lever succession as follows: Alexander, d. 1613—s. Roger, d. 1645—bro. Thomas, d. 1679—s. Thomas, d. 1704 (leaving a daughter and heir, Anne)—nephew Thomas (s. of Rev. John Lever), d. c. 1707—bro. Rev. Samuel, d. 1754—s. Thomas. Some later particulars are contained on the Lever tombstones in the churchyard; James Lever of Hindley, the latest, having been interred there on 1 Sept. 1811, aged forty-two.

³⁸ In 1331 Robert de Horncliffe and Agnes his wife seem to have settled the fourth part of the Bolton and other manors on the heirs of the husband; *Final Conc.* ii, 80. In 1336, however, Agnes, as widow of Robert, granted the succession of her part of Great Bolton to Robert son of John son of John de Harrington, with remainder to Adam brother of Robert, and then to the right heirs of Agnes; *ibid.* ii, 101.

³⁹ Henry de Ferrers, grandson of William, in 1329, claimed the manors of Bolton and Chorley, with exceptions, against Robert son of Robert de Hephale, and Margaret, late wife of Adam Banastre (i.e. Margaret de Holland); *De Banco R.* 279, m. 61 d. In the following year he made his claim against John de Harrington the younger and Katherine his wife, Robert de Shireburne and Alice his wife, Robert de Horncliff and Agnes his wife, and Thomas de Arderne; *ibid.* R. 282, m. 112. The latter claim he prosecuted the following year, setting out his descent as son of William son of William de Ferrers, to whom the manors had been given in the time of Henry III by Robert de Ferrers, Earl of Derby, brother of William; *ibid.* R. 285, m. 144.

The claim seems to have been revived again in July 1354 by Henry's son Sir William de Ferrers, who set forth his claim to the manors of Bolton and Chorley against Alice, widow of Sir Robert de Shireburne, Sir John de Harrington of

Farleton and Katherine his wife, Robert son of John de Harrington of Farleton, and Sir Thomas de Arderne, each holding a fourth part of the manor of Bolton; *Duchy of Lanc. Assize R.* 3, m. 8a. At Michaelmas he claimed the Arderne part against certain persons, including Margaret Banastre, who were probably trustees; *ibid.* m. 6. Alice de Shireburne, sister and one of the heirs of Agnes de Lea, and Sir Thomas de Arderne, the other heir, were called to warrant; Alice de Shireburne, for her own share of the manor, called Sir William de Plumpton to warrant her; *ibid.* R. 4, m. 4 d. 28. Agnes de Lea was so called from her first husband, Sir Henry de Lea. Robert de Harrington and Sir Thomas de Arderne had the king's protection, and the trial of their cases had therefore to be deferred; *ibid.* m. 15 d. The claims were renewed in subsequent years (R. 5, m. 18; R. 6, m. 5, 6), and in 1358 Robert and Thomas sons of Sir John de Harrington, each holding a fourth part, were summoned; *Assize R.* 438, m. 3. In 1359 Sir Thomas de Arderne claimed the fourth part of the manor against the same trustees; *Duchy of Lanc. Assize R.* 7, m. 5; and Sir William de Ferrers continued his suits.

Some settlement with Arderne was afterwards arrived at, for in 1362 Sir William's claim was against Nicholas son of John de Harrington for a moiety of Bolton, and against Sir Richard de Shireburne for a fourth part; *De Banco R.* 408, m. 79 d. Five years later there was a claim against John de Swinford and Elizabeth his wife, holding a third of two-thirds of the fourth part of the manor; *ibid.* R. 428, m. 226; while in 1370 a further attempt was made to recover the moiety held by Nicholas de Harrington; *ibid.* R. 439, m. 92. Sir William died on 8 Jan. 1370-1, holding a third of the fourth part and a third of the remaining two-thirds of that part of the manor of Bolton, worth 20s. 2d. a year, all being held of the Duke of Lancaster by knight's service as of the manor of West Derby, and by suit at the county and wapentake courts, and also at the Penwortham court; the remaining portion of this part of Bolton was held for life by John de Arderne and Joan his wife, by the grant of Sir William; *Inq. p.m.* 45 Edw. III. (2nd nos.), no. 22. Soon afterwards Margaret, the widow, claimed dower in the holding of John de Arderne in Chorley and Bolton; *De Banco R.* 460, m. 129. There are allusions to the Ferrers holding in the Close R. of 1 Ric. II, m. 24 d. 19 Ric. II, m. 26.

In the inquisitions (1388) after the death of Sir William's son and heir, Sir

attainder of Thomas, Marquess of Dorset, in 1483.⁴⁰ It was in 1484 given to the Stanleys, afterwards Earls of Derby, and has since descended with the earldom.⁴¹

The fourth daughter, Katherine, married Sir John de Harrington of Farleton in Lonsdale, and had three sons—Thomas, Robert, and Nicholas;⁴² the inheritance, doubled by the gift of Agnes, descended with the issue of Nicholas to Sir Thomas Harrington and his son Sir John, both killed at the battle of Wakefield in 1460.⁴³ The moiety of the manor of Bolton was secured for himself by Sir Edward Stanley, created Lord Mounteagle, who married Anne, one of Sir John Harrington's daughters;⁴⁴ and it descended through his son by a second marriage to William, Lord Mount-

eagle, who in 1574 sold it to William Slinehead and Ellis Ainsworth.⁴⁵

The estate was then divided. Ralph Assheton of Great Lever in 1588 died seised of a fourth part of the manor,⁴⁶ and his descendant, Sir Ralph Assheton, sold it in 1630 to John Bridgeman, Bishop of Chester,⁴⁷ with whose descendant, the Earl of Bradford, this part of the manor still remains.

From Ellis Ainsworth the remaining fourth part seems to have passed by the marriage of Jane Ainsworth to Ellis Hey of Monks Hall in Eccles,⁴⁸ and their descendant, another Ellis Hey, in 1658 sold it to Henry Houghton,⁴⁹ after which it cannot be clearly traced.⁵⁰

Henry de Ferrers of Groby, certain tenements in Bolton, held for life by John de Aldelem, Katherine his wife, and John their son, are stated to be held of John La Warre, lord of Manchester, by knight's service; *Inq. p.m.* 11 Ric. II, no. 26; 16 Ric. II, pt. i, no. 11. John de Arderne died in 1392, holding for life three parts of a fourth part of Bolton, by grant of Sir William de Ferrers, grandfather of the William de Ferrers of Groby of whom he held at the time of his death; the value was 60s. a year; *Inq. p.m.* 16 Ric. II, pt. i, no. 35; 18 Ric. II, no. 1.

⁴⁰ See the preceding note and *Lancs. Inq. p.m.* (Chet. Soc.), ii, 51, where again the tenure is stated to be of Lord La Warre.

⁴¹ It was among the manors and lands granted by Richard III on 17 Sept. 1484 to Sir Thomas Stanley and his son Sir George, as a reward for their assistance against various rebels; *Cal. Pat.* 1476–85, p. 476.

In the inquisition after the death of Thomas Earl of Derby, in 1521, it is stated that the moiety of the manor of Chorley and the fourth part of the manor of Bolton—this was the description of the Arderne estate in 1354—had been held by Joan Lady Strange 'in her demesne as of fee', and had descended to the earl on her death. In his case the manors were said to be held of the king as of his Duchy, but in Lady Strange's to be held of Thomas Ashton and Roger Dalton as of their manor of Croston; *Duchy of Lanc. Inq. p.m.* v, no. 68; iv, no. 18.

The accounts of the Derby estates during the minority of the third earl show that the free tenants of Bolton paid 25s. *qd.* at the Feast of St. Margaret, and 12*d.* was derived from a toll called Weketoll; *Derby Rental* (1522) in possession of Earl of Lathom.

During the Commonwealth Charles Worsley contracted to purchase the confiscated manor of Bolton; *Royalist Comp. Papers* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), ii, 240.

The manor occurs regularly in fines and recoveries of the Earl of Derby's estates.

⁴² Sir John de Harrington of Farleton died holding in right of Katherine his wife, deceased, certain tenements in Bolton of Henry Duke of Lancaster; viz., 10 acres in the hands of tenants at will rendering 5*s.* a year; rents of free burgesses, 21*s.*; the fourth part of a fair, held at St. Margaret's Feast, 10*s.* Robert, the son and heir, succeeded, and died abroad in 1361, on which the Duke of Lancaster took possession, but died soon afterwards. Nicholas, another son of John and Katherine, was the heir both of

his parents and his brother; *Inq. p.m.* 36 Edw. III, pt. i, no. 90. The jury ignored the other fourth part of Bolton held by Robert in right of his aunt's gift.

⁴³ The estates descended to Sir James Harrington, brother of Sir John, who forfeited them in 1486 as a Yorkist; Whitaker, *Whalley*, ii, 509.

⁴⁴ The manor of Bolton-le-Moors, worth 40*s.* a year, is stated in the inquisition after Lord Mounteagle's death in 1523 to have been held together with Hornby, Farleton, &c., by virtue of a grant from Henry VII in 1489, of the king in chief by the service of one knight's fee; *Duchy of Lanc. Inq. p.m.* v, no. 64. Thomas his son and heir died in 1560, holding all by the same service; *ibid.* xi, no. 1. William the son and heir of Thomas was the vendor.

In the time of Henry VII Sir Edward Stanley had some difficulty in securing the tolls of the July fair, a number of the neighbouring gentry, with their men, coming armed and creating a great riot, so that had not the curate of Bolton interfered, standing between the combatants with the Blessed Sacrament upon him, Sir Edward's servants would have been taken and murdered 'out of hand'; *Duchy Plead.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), i, 44. These tolls were granted to Sir Edward on 12 July 1507; *Duchy of Lanc. Misc. Bks.* xxi, fol. 2/59 d.

⁴⁵ *Pal. of Lanc. Feet of F. bde.* 36, m. 142; the sale included the manor of Bolton, and lands there and at Ashton in Makerfield. For other Ainsworth acquisitions see *ibid.* bdes. 30, m. 70; 58, m. 352; 59, m. 9.

⁴⁶ *Duchy of Lanc. Inq. p.m.* xiv, no. 90. There is nothing to show how he became possessed of it. The fourth part of the manor, with four burgages, &c., is said to be held of the queen in free burgage and socage; see also *Lancs. Inq. p.m.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), ii, 289.

⁴⁷ *Pal. of Lanc. Feet of F. bde.* 115, no. 39; see the account of Great Lever.

⁴⁸ This is an inference from the pedigree in Dugdale, *Visit.* (Chet. Soc.), 133, and the statements in several inquisitions that lands, &c., in Bolton were held of Ralph Assheton and either Jane Ainsworth, widow, or Ellis Hey; e.g. *Lancs. Inq. p.m.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), i, 116; ii, 274.

⁴⁹ *Pal. of Lanc. Feet of F. bde.* 162, m. 102.

⁵⁰ The following were lords of the manor in the years given:—

1442—Lord de Ferrers, Thomas de Harrington, and Robert Shireburne; Towneley MS. DD, no. 1478.

1508—Thomas Earl of Derby, Sir Edward Stanley, and Sir Richard Shire-

burne; *Duchy of Lanc. Inq. p.m.* iii, no. 26.

1578—Henry Earl of Derby, William Lord Mounteagle, and Richard Shireburne; *ibid.* xii, no. 19.

1604—William Earl of Derby, Richard Shireburne, Ralph Assheton, and Ellis Hey; *Lancs. Inq. p.m.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), i, 22.

1635—William Earl of Derby, John Bishop of Chester, Roger Lever, and Ellis Hey; *Duchy of Lanc. Inq. p.m.* xxvii, no. 42.

1691—William George Earl of Derby, Sir John Bridgeman, Thomas Lever, and Roger Thropp; *End. Cbar. Rep. for Bolton*, 1904, p. 66. The heirs of Roger Thropp are named (*ibid.* 16), but his share of the manor did not descend to them. 'Thropp's house' in Bradshaw Gate was in 1773 owned by John Moss, woollen draper; Scholes and Pimblett, *op. cit.* 149. The Lever share descended in part (one third, as it appears) to the Blackburnes of Orford, by the marriage of Jonathan Blackburne with Anne daughter and heir of Thomas Lever of Chamber, who had previously been the wife of Christopher Lockwood of Leeds; she died in 1732, aged seventy-seven; Beaumont, *Hale and Orford*, 183–6; Thoresby, *Ducatus Leod.* 48. For a demise in 1742 of Chamber Hall and the Blackburne estate see *Bolton Hist. Gleanings*, ii, 59.

1746—Edward Earl of Derby, Sir John Bridgeman, John Blackburne, Samuel Crooke, Rev. Samuel Lever; *ibid.* i, 35.

1764—The same, except that the Rev. Thomas Lever had succeeded Samuel; *ibid.*

1792—Edward Lord Derby, Sir Henry Bridgeman, John Blackburne, James Lever, and Samuel Crooke; Scholes and Pimblett, *op. cit.* 465. In 1803 David Claughton purchased 'the manor or lordship of Great Bolton,' and lands there, from John Blackburne and his wife, Adam Mason and his wife, and William Maire; *Pal. of Lanc. Assize R. Lent Assizes* 43 Geo. III. In the following year Samuel Crooke was vouchee in a recovery of the manor of Whittle-le-Woods, and the fourth part of the manor of Bolton; *ibid.* Lent Assizes, 44 Geo. III.

1824—The Earl of Derby, Earl of Bradford, Rev. — Freeman, each one-fourth part; and — Claughton one-twelfth; and the representatives of the Lever family one-sixth; Baines, *Lancs. Dir.* ii, 530. The statement was repeated in 1836; Baines, *Lancs.* iii, 55. Thomas Claughton and his wife appear to have made a settlement of the manors of Great Bolton and Houghton [in Winwick] in 1812; *Pal. of Lanc. Assize R. Aug.* 52 Geo. III, fine 5; see also the account of Houghton. Two years later a similar

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At the present time the Earl of Derby and the Earl of Bradford are said to hold each a fourth part of

the manor; the holders of the remainder are not known.



STANLEY, Earl of Derby. *Argent on a bend azure three hearts' heads caboshed or.*



BRIDGEMAN, Earl of Bradford. *Sable ten plates, on a chief argent a lion passant ermines.*

settlement was made by Robert Rowbottom and his wife, Henry Varley and his wife, and others; *ibid.* Hil. 54 Geo. III, fine 27; while in 1826 Robert Rowbottom and his wife were in possession of the third part of a fourth part of the manor; *ibid.* Hil. 7 Geo. IV, fine 34.

A moiety of the manor of Bolton-on-the-Moors was in 1664 Charles Lord Gerard; *Pat.* 16 Chas. II, pt. vi, no. 10. It is stated to have been the portion of Sir James Harrington attained.

⁵¹ Anian de Entwisle held lands in 1442 of the three lords of the manor, by unknown services; Towneley MS. DD, no. 1478. George Entwisle sold messuages, &c., in 1546; *Pal. of Lanc. Feet of F. bdlc.* 12, m. 217, 271; see also *bdlc.* 15, m. 79.

Thomas de Longworth in 1448 held a burgage in Bolton; *Lancs. Rec. Inq. p.m.* no. 36, 37a. Margaret and Ralph Longworth purchased six messuages, &c., in 1549; *Pal. of Lanc. Feet of F. bdlc.* 13, m. 4. Christopher Longworth in 1608 held two messuages and certain land in socage by 12d. rent of Ralph Assheton and Jane Ainsworth; *Lancs. Inq. p.m. (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.)*, i, 116.

John Hulton of Farnworth in 1487 held lands in Bolton of the three lords, worth 3s. 4d. a year; *Duchy of Lanc. Inq. p.m.* iii, no. 26. His successor, William Hulton, nearly seventy years later also held burgages and lands in Bolton of the three lords in socage; *ibid.* x, no. 32. The estate appears in 1422; *Lancs. Inq. p.m. (Chet. Soc.)*, ii, 6. For another Hulton estate see *Final Conc.* iii, 118.

Richard Radcliffe of Smithills in 1502 held lands, &c., in Bolton of the lords by the rent of 12d.; *Duchy of Lanc. Inq. p.m.* iii, no. 98. His successor, John Barton, was said to hold of Thurstan Holland of Dalton [? Denton] in socage; *ibid.* iv, no. 82. In 1580 Robert Barton's ten burgages, &c., were found to be held of the Earl of Derby by a rent of 2s.; *ibid.* xiv, no. 24. See also *Lancs. Inq. p.m. (Rec. Soc.)*, i, 211.

John Radcliffe of Radcliffe in 1513 held a burgage of the lords of Bolton by the rent of 12d.; *Duchy of Lanc. Inq. p.m.* iv, no. 7.

Richard Radcliffe of Langley in 1578 held ten messuages, &c., in Bolton of the three lords by a rent of 5s. 8d.; *Duchy of Lanc. Inq. p.m.* xii, no. 19. His son Edmund in 1604 held them of the four lords by fealty only; *Lancs. Inq. p.m. (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.)*, i, 22.

The Hollands of Denton also had an estate here. Richard Holland in 1481 held five messuages, 100 acres of land, &c., which descended to his grandson

Thurstan; they were said in 1510 to be held of Lord La Warre in socage; *Duchy of Lanc. Inq. p.m.* iv, no. 36, 58. The tenure is more correctly stated in 1571 and 1635 as of the lords of Bolton in socage by a rent of 6d.; *ibid.* xiii, no. 20; xxvii, no. 42; see also *Lancs. Inq. p.m. (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.)*, ii, 146.

Adam Mort of Astley in 1631 held a messuage in Bolton of the Earl of Derby; *Duchy of Lanc. Inq. p.m.* xxv, no. 33.

Adam Byrom of Salford at his death in 1558 held five cottages, &c., of Lord Mounteagle by a rent of 12d.; *ibid.* xi, no. 65; also xvii, no. 39. Ralph Byrom in 1581 had the reversion of an estate in Bolton belonging to James Bradshaw; it included a burgage, fulling mill, &c.; *Pal. of Lanc. Feet of F. bdlc.* 43, m. 102; see also *bdlc.* 30, m. 63; 40, m. 206.

Robert Lever of Darcy Lever in 1620 held a messuage and gardens at Bolton of Richard Shireburne by 5½d. rent; *Lancs. Inq. p.m. (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.)*, ii, 257.

Ellis Crompton held messuages, &c., and an improvement of the wastes of the king as of his duchy; *Duchy of Lanc. Inq. p.m.* xviii, no. 69.

Roger Walmsley of Rogerstead in Heaton held 27 messuages, 8½ burgages, &c., in Bolton of the Earl of Derby in 1622; Towneley MS. C.8, 13 (*Chet. Lib.*), fol. 1287.

⁵² Emma daughter of Roger Steel of Bolton claimed dower in a toft and acre of land against John son of Hugh the Chaplain in 1292; *Assize R.* 408, m. 61. Alice widow of William de Pendlebury in 1307 claimed dower in Bolton among other places; *De Banco R.* 164, m. 206.

Some charters of a family surnamed Bolton are contained in *Add. MS.* 32104. By one of these, dated 1316, Richard the Cook of Harwood gave a burgage to Richard the Carpenter of Hutton; no. 1235. In 1322 Adam son of Walter the Fuller of Bolton released his claim in a certain curtilage to Ellis Bulling son of William de Oakenbottom; no. 1220. Maud daughter of Ellis the Skinner released her right to a toft and buildings sold by her mother Emota to Robert de Pontefract; no. 1231. John son of Geoffrey de Bolton appears in 1353 and later; he had a burgage in Bayard Street, and land in Bromycroft and elsewhere; no. 1185, 1182, 1204. Alice his widow had a grant in 1369; no. 1225. Adam de Bolton made a feoffment of his lands in 1403, and he and his wife Isabel received them back in 1407; a new feoffment was made in 1411; no. 1215, 1236, 1209. About thirty years later the property appears to have come to

Many of the surrounding landowners have held burgages and lands in Great Bolton from an early period,⁵¹ and the names of other owners occur in various pleadings and charters.⁵² Among the more noteworthy of these were a branch of the Norris family of Tonge.⁵³ The returns of 'Papists' estates' in the time of George I include the name of Cope Brooks of Bolton.⁵⁴

There was a case of treasure trove in 1560.⁵⁵

The distinction between the trades of tanners and leather-dressers was insisted upon in 1445.⁵⁶

Richard Rothwell, a Puritan exorcist of the beginning of the 17th century, is said to have been a native of Bolton.

Robert de Habergham of Burnley; no. 1229, 1218, 1230. The above-named John son of Geoffrey de Bolton was at Easter 1354 a defendant in a suit respecting a messuage, &c., at Bolton, claimed by Henry son of Richard son of Roger de Bolton; *Duchy of Lanc. Assize R.* 3, m. 4.

John Parke of Bolton died in 1621 seised of messuages and lands which were held of Richard Shireburne by a rent of 18½d.; the heir was his grandson Robert son of John Parke; *Lancs. Inq. p.m. (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.)*, ii, 253.

Abraham Holme died in 1614 holding a messuage, &c., of Ralph Assheton and Jane Ainsworth; his son William was seventeen years of age; *Add. MS.* 32108, fol. 90. William died in 1621 holding similarly, his brother George being heir; *Lancs. Inq. p.m. (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.)*, ii, 274.

⁵⁸ Robert Norris of Bolton, clothier, son of Alexander Norris of Tonge, died in 1620 holding six messuages, &c., of Richard Shireburne, by the rent of 18½d. George Norris, the son and heir, was twenty-three years of age; *Lancs. Inq. p.m. (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.)*, ii, 211.

William, a younger son, received part of the estate, and died 15 July 1628, leaving as heir his son Robert, then four years of age. His will mentions George and William, younger sons, and Robert Norris, son of his brother John; Towneley MS. C.8, 13 (*Chet. Lib.*), fol. 915.

Isabel Norris, said to be the widow of Robert the father of William, died in 1637, leaving a messuage and land held of the Earl of Derby to her daughter and heir Margaret, wife of Thomas Blackburne of Newton; *Duchy of Lanc. Inq. p.m.* xxx, no. 77.

An Alexander Norris of Bolton in 1646 compounded for his estate by a fine of £15. He had absented himself from home and spent some time in the king's quarters, but had since taken the National covenant; *Royalist Comp. Papers (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.)*, iv, 218.

⁵⁴ *Lancs. and Ches. Recs. (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.)*, i, 195.

⁵⁵ *Ducatus Lanc. (Rec. Com.)*, ii, 228.

⁵⁶ Sir Ralph de Radcliffe complained that Roger Jenkinson of Bolton-on-the-Moors, and two others, all using 'the mystery of leather-dressing,' had exercised also 'the mystery of tanning' contrary to the statute ordaining that should any leather-dresser use the office of tanner during the time that leather-dressing is used he must forfeit 6s. 8d. to the king for each skin tanned by him, as well as 6s. 8d. for each defective skin; *Pal. of Lanc. Plea R.* 7, m. 16.

At the beginning of 1253 William de Ferrers, Earl of Derby, then lord of **BOROUGH** Bolton, by his charter made the town a free borough, and granted the burgesses certain liberties. Each burgess was to have an acre of land, measured by the long perch of 24 ft., and to pay 12d. a year. A reeve was to be chosen each year by the burgesses from among themselves, and pleas were to be heard in the local halmote or portmanmote. The burgesses had rights of turbary, and might take timber from the grove between the great lane and the land of the church; they were to grind at the lord's mill to the twentieth measure, but if they were kept waiting more than two days might take their corn elsewhere. All pleas belonging to the borough were to be decided before the lord's bailiffs by view of the burgesses.⁵⁸ The earl had in December 1251 procured the king's charter for a market at Bolton every Monday, and a yearly fair on the eve, day, and morrow of St. Margaret, 19-21 July, as well as for free warren.⁵⁹

The borough⁶⁰ did not develop into an independent community, but, like Manchester, was governed by officers appointed at the manor courts.⁶¹ The growth of the town during the 18th century made a change desirable. In 1792 an Act was passed for the inclosure and allotment of Bolton Moor, for regulating the streets, securing a water supply, removing nuisances, and licensing conveyances.⁶² The Commissioners under the Act had thus considerable powers of government; and a voluntary association for watching the town existed for some years.⁶³ In 1838 a charter of incorporation was granted under the general Act of 1835, the townships of Great and Little Bolton, with some alteration of boundaries, becoming the borough of Bolton.⁶⁴ A considerable party in the district, preferring the older order, protested that the charter was invalid, until the Boroughs Incorporation Act of 1842 confirmed it.⁶⁵ The borough was at first divided into six wards—Exchange, Bradford, Derby, Church, East, and West—each with two aldermen and six councillors. In 1839 magistrates were appointed for the borough, and a court of quarter sessions was granted. A number of improvement Acts have been passed; by that of 1847 the waterworks, formed by a private company in 1818,⁶⁶ were purchased, and have since been greatly enlarged; the gasworks, also owned by a private company

formed in 1818-20, were acquired in 1872.⁶⁷ Electric lighting works were opened in 1894. Under an Act of 1850 the powers of the Great Bolton and Little Bolton Trusts⁶⁸ were transferred to the corporation, and the erection of a market was authorized; this was opened in 1855, and enlarged in 1894; a fish market was added in 1865, and a wholesale market in 1871.⁶⁹ A free library was inaugurated in 1853,⁷⁰ and this has constantly grown; a natural history museum building, the gift of Dr. S. T. Chadwick, was opened in 1884; the Mere Hall art museum was presented by Mr. J. P. Thomasson in 1890, and Halli' th' Wood by Mr. W. H. Lever in 1899. The baths were opened in 1846, and have been enlarged since. Parks and recreation grounds have been added, and a large part of Rivington has recently been presented to the town by Mr. W. H. Lever.

For a long time the council used the Little Bolton Town Hall, built in 1826, for its meetings; but in 1873 the new Town Hall was opened.⁷¹ At the same time the council was enlarged; in the preceding year Daubhill had been taken into the borough as Rumworth Ward, and in 1873 the wards were increased to eight, by constituting a portion of West Ward into an independent one, called North Ward; and the boundaries were rearranged. The two new wards had an alderman and three councillors each.⁷² In 1877 the boundaries were again enlarged, part of Halliwell being included as a ninth ward, with two aldermen and six councillors.⁷³ Twelve years later the town became a county borough under the Local Government Act, and in 1898 a further extension of boundaries took place, so that the municipal borough now includes the old townships of Great and Little Bolton, and Tonge with Haulgh, and those of Halliwell, Heaton, Lostock, Rumworth, part of Over Hulton, Middle Hulton, Great Lever, Darcy Lever, Brightmet, and Sharples. The town is governed by a mayor, twenty-four aldermen, and seventy-two councillors; there are seventeen wards, of which seven—Exchange, Bradford, Derby, Church, East, West, and Halliwell—have each two aldermen and six councillors; and the rest—North, Rumworth, Astley Bridge, Tonge, Darcy-Lever-cum-Brightmet, Great Lever, Hulton, Deane-cum-Lostock, Heaton, and Smithills—have each an alderman and three councillors. A grant of arms was obtained in 1890.⁷⁴ A school board was formed in 1870. Electric tram-

⁵⁸ The charter has been printed in full by Miss Bateson in *Engl. Hist. Rev.* xvii, 291-3. She describes it as 'another version of the Salford and Stockport charters of Ranulf de Blundeville's model' (p. 285). As in the Salford charter, freedom from toll within the grantor's lands was allowed, and no one might exercise his trade as shoe-maker, skinner, fuller, or the like, within the wapentake of Salford unless he were in the borough.

The burgages, with their rent of 12d. each, have frequently occurred in inquisitions referred to above. Thus in 1288 there were sixty-nine (or seventy) burgages, each rendering 12d. The number may have been greater, for the revenue of the Harrington quarter in 1362 was said to include 211. from the burgages, implying a total of eighty-eight.

⁵⁹ *Cal. Chart. R.* 1226-57, p. 374. The charter was exemplified in 1331 at the request of Henry Earl of Lancaster; *Cal. Pat.* 1330-4, p. 192.

In a writ of *Quo Warranto* in 1498 the market day is called Friday; *Pal. of Lanc. Writs Proton.* 13 Hen. VII.

In 1602 a citizen of London put forward his claim to be exempt from tolls in the markets and fair of Bolton; *Ducatus Lanc.* iii, 483.

⁶⁰ Account was rendered in 1257 of 451. the farm of the borough of Bolton for two terms; *Lancs. Inq. and Extents*, i, 205.

⁶¹ It was in 1825 governed by a borough reeve, two constables, and inferior officers elected annually at the courts leet in Oct.; see Scholes and Pimblett, *Bolton*, 480. 'The privilege of holding a court-baron for the recovery of small debts under 40s. is vested in the lords of the manor of Great Bolton, and formerly a court-baron was held here, but in the 6th of George III it was discontinued, owing to the clerk having absconded and conveyed away part of the records'; Baines, *Lancs. Dir.* i, 538.

⁶² The account in the text is mainly drawn from Scholes and Pimblett, *Bolton*,

464-512, where full details are given. The Act for inclosing the moor differed from most others in allowing one-fifteenth to the lords of the manor, and directing the remainder to be sold on chief rent or let on long leases in aid of the poor rate; *Lancs. and Ches. Antiq. Soc.* vi, 123.

⁶³ The 'Watch and Ward' committee, from 1812 to 1820; Scholes and Pimblett, op. cit. 470. ⁶⁴ Ibid. 483.

⁶⁵ Ibid. 486. The new police superseded those of the borough reeve and constables in 1839.

⁶⁶ Ibid. 472, 494. ⁶⁷ Ibid. 472, 506. ⁶⁸ Created by the first Improvement Acts.

⁶⁹ Scholes & Pimblett, op. cit. 496, 497-70 Ibid. 497. ⁷¹ Ibid. 502-6.

⁷² Ibid. 506; 35 & 36 Vict. cap. 78. ⁷³ Ibid. 510; 40 & 41 Vict. cap. 188, and 42 & 43 Vict. cap. 103.

⁷⁴ Scholes & Pimblett, op. cit. 511. The old arms were Gules two bendlets enhanced or; crest, an elephant.

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ways are worked by the corporation.⁷⁵ The cemeteries at Tonge and Heaton, opened in 1857 and 1879 respectively, are regulated by a burial board.

The Parliamentary borough was created by the Reform Act of 1832; the electoral area included Great Bolton, most of Little Bolton, and Haulgh, and was extended in 1868 to include Astley Bridge and Little Bolton Higher End.⁷⁶ It has always been represented by two members.

The parish church has been described above. There is a mission hall in connexion with it. The other churches in this district are:—Holy Trinity, Sweet Green, was erected in 1826 as a chapel of ease, and made the head of a separate parish in 1841; the Bishop of Manchester is patron.⁷⁷ Emmanuel was built in 1838, and made parochial in 1841; the vicar of Bolton presents the incumbent.⁷⁸ Christ Church was built in 1818 by the Methodists, and called Ebenezer; it was transferred in 1841 to the Church of England; the Crown and the Bishop of Manchester present alternately.⁷⁹ St. Paul's, which has a mission church, was built in 1865, and had a district assigned to it the following year; it is in the gift of five trustees.⁸⁰ St. Mark's was built in 1866, and was consecrated in 1871; the Bolton Lectureship Trustees and another body of four trustees present alternately.⁸¹ St. Bartholomew's, built in 1879, had a district assigned to it in 1880; five trustees have the patronage.⁸² The Saviour's was built in 1882; in this case also the patronage is vested in five trustees.⁸³ To St. Philip's, 1898, the Bishop of Manchester and the Bolton Lectureship Trustees present alternately.⁸⁴ Three of these churches have benefited by the Lectureship fund.

A small Methodist congregation was formed about 1742, but John Wesley, on his first visits in 1748 and 1749, met with a brutal reception.⁸⁵ Soon after this there broke out the dispute between Wesley and Whitefield as to Calvinism; the congregation divided, and the few Wesleyans proper kept up a meeting, and Wesley himself several times visited the town. The

chapel in Ridgeway Gates, Deansgate, opened in 1777, represents this first congregation. There are now seven other Wesleyan churches in Great Bolton,⁸⁶ and the Victoria Hall, Knowsley Street, built in 1900, is the head quarters of the Bolton mission. The Methodist New Connexion formed a congregation as early as 1797; their first chapel, Ebenezer, built in 1818, has been mentioned above as Christ Church.⁸⁷ They have now no building in Great Bolton. The Primitive Methodists had a meeting-place in Newport Street in 1822, used till 1865; they have continued to increase, and have two chapels in the township.⁸⁸ The United Free Methodists have two chapels, Hanover Street dating from 1834.⁸⁹ The Independent Methodists also have two chapels. The Bible Christians are represented.

Congregationalism in Bolton⁹⁰ traces its origin to the above-mentioned dispute between Wesley and Whitefield. The latter great preacher visited the town in 1750, and the Calvinistic section of the Methodists soon afterwards began separate meetings, a chapel being built in Duke's Alley in 1754; it was in use till recently.⁹¹ Mawdsley Street, opened in 1808, originated in a secession from the other congregations; it was rebuilt in 1870. There are two other churches of this denomination,⁹² and a mission hall.

Baptist preaching began in 1777; a little chapel in King Street, on the bank of the Croal, was opened in 1793 and used for some years. A new start was made in 1818, as a result of which Moor Lane Chapel was opened in 1822; this was sold to the Primitive Methodists in 1866, and the denomination has now no place of worship in Great Bolton.⁹³

The Moravians had preaching stations at Bolton and Haulgh in the latter part of the 18th century.⁹⁴

The Society of Friends assembled for a century—from 1721 to 1820—in a meeting-house in Acresfield.⁹⁵

The Presbyterian Church of England has St. Andrew's, opened in 1846.⁹⁶

⁷⁵ The first tramways were laid in 1880; *ibid.* 509.

⁷⁷ *Lond. Gaz.* 12 Nov. 1841; endowments of £810 in all have been notified in the *Gazette*. It was built out of Parliamentary funds. There is a peal of eight bells.

⁷⁸ The name of the church was suggested by the vicar, who was of Emmanuel College, Cambridge; *Lond. Gaz.* 12 Nov. 1841 for district; 22 Oct. 1841 and 2 Aug. 1864 for endowments.

⁷⁹ *Ibid.* 3 June 1844.

⁸⁰ It stands on the site of a chapel built in 1803 for Scottish Presbyterians. See *ibid.* 13 Apr. 1866 for district.

⁸¹ *Ibid.* 29 June 1866.

⁸² *Ibid.* 28 May 1880; for endowments *ibid.* 20 May 1881 and 10 June 1881.

⁸³ *Ibid.* 3 Mar. 1882. The building funds were provided by Nathaniel and Thomas Greenhalgh, two brothers. There is a peal of eight bells.

⁸⁴ A temporary iron church is used.

⁸⁵ This account is from Scholes and Pimblett, *Bolton*, 355–8. The first Wesleyan meeting-place was in Hotel Street; the authors refer to J. Musgrave's *Origin of Methodism in Bolton* (1865). Wesley visited Bolton again in 1752, 1753, and many later years; the last visit was in 1790, when he 'preached in the lovely house at Bolton, to one of the loveliest

congregations in England, who by patient continuance in well doing had turned scorn and hatred into general esteem and good will.'

⁸⁶ Fletcher Street Chapel was opened in 1819, Bradshaw Gate in 1849–51, Fern Street 1871, and Victoria 1872.

⁸⁷ Scholes and Pimblett, *op. cit.* 366.

Owing to internal disputes and financial difficulties, Ebenezer Chapel was disposed of in 1841; the minister conformed to the Established Church and was ordained as perpetual curate, and most of the congregation followed him, and continued to worship in the old building, which was consecrated in 1844. From 1841 to 1852 there was a New Connexion chapel in Lever Street.

⁸⁸ *Ibid.* 366. In 1865 the Primitive Methodists acquired a Baptist chapel in Moor Lane, rebuilt in 1877.

⁸⁹ *Ibid.* 367. This denomination began in Bolton about 1820 as Independent Methodists. Hanover Street Chapel was due to a secession from the Wesleyan schools in Ridgeway Gates.

⁹⁰ *Ibid.* 369–74; B. Nightingale, *Lancs. Nonconf.* iii, 16–43.

⁹¹ There seem to have been two successive chapels on the same ground, which was the place where Whitefield preached. The chapel was in use in 1892; Nightingale, *op. cit.* 26–7. A history of it,

under the title *Centenary Memorial*, was published by the Rev. William Hope Davison, the minister in 1854.

⁹² Rose Hill was the meeting-place of a vegetarian society, nicknamed Dumpingites and regarded as Socialists. It was then used by Wesleyans, and in 1841 was acquired by the Mawdsley Street congregation for a Sunday school; in 1864 a school chapel was erected, and in 1870 a separate church was constituted; Nightingale, *op. cit.* 41.

⁹³ Scholes and Pimblett, *op. cit.* 375–7. King Street Chapel, said to have passed from the Baptists in 1806, appears as a Baptist chapel in a map of 1824.

⁹⁴ *Moravian Ch. in Lancs.* (1888), 16, 17.

⁹⁵ Scholes and Pimblett, *op. cit.* 353. There were Quakers in Bolton as early as 1675.

⁹⁶ A number of Scotchmen attending Duke's Alley Chapel formed a separate congregation in 1803, building a chapel at the junction of Moor Lane and Deansgate, now occupied by St. Paul's Church. After a few years the Presbyterian Chapel had to be closed, and was used by several denominations in succession. A new start was made in 1837, and this led to St. Andrew's being built; Scholes and Pimblett, *op. cit.* 374–5. The old chapel was occupied by Baptists in 1819, and afterwards by Unitarians; *ibid.* 376.

In Bolton, as elsewhere, the original Nonconformist chapel is now in the hands of Unitarians. Richard Goodwin, the vicar ejected in 1662, licensed a house in Deansgate in 1672, during the temporary 'indulgence,' and ministered there till his death in 1685.⁹⁷ He was succeeded by John Lever and Robert Seddon, also ejected ministers; the latter acquired a house in Windy Bank, now Bank Street, and the new chapel was opened in 1696, just after its founder's death. Unitarian doctrine began to prevail about 1750; a number of the members seceded, joining the Duke's Alley congregation.⁹⁸ A second Unitarian chapel, for secessionists, existed from 1821 to about 1840; and in 1868 Commission Street Chapel was opened,⁹⁹ replaced later by one in Deane Road.

There are some unsectarian religious agencies, as the Queen Street Mission and Gospel Union Mission. The Salvation Army has a citadel. There is also a Spiritual Church.

As might have been expected in so Puritan a town Roman Catholicism disappeared, and 'a hundred years ago a man dared scarcely proclaim himself a Roman Catholic in Bolton, so bitter was the popular sentiment against the principles of his church.'¹⁰⁰ Mass was once again said in the town about 1800 in an obscure room in the Old Acres, near the site of St. Patrick's, and after some years the church of St. Peter and St. Paul was built on Bolton Moor, and opened in 1803; it was rebuilt in 1897. Two other churches were opened in 1861—St. Edmund's and St. Patrick's.¹⁰¹

The original school, near the parish church, was founded in 1524.¹⁰² It was united about 1656 with the foundation of Robert Lever in 1641, the present grammar school being the representative of both.¹⁰³ Dr. Lemprière, author of the *Classical Dictionary*, was one of the masters.¹⁰⁴

LITTLE BOLTON

The principal part of this township, containing the northern half of Bolton-le-Moors, is bounded on the south by the Croal, on the east by Tonge Brook, and on the north by Astley Brook. The township projects north of the last-named brook, including part of Astley Bridge. It has also three detached portions intermingled with Sharples; one of them adjoins Smithills Park and contains the Thorns, another stretching across from Halliwell on the west to Turton on the east includes the hamlets of Eagley and Horrocks Fold; the third, to the north of this, has a small hamlet called Hampsons. The area of the whole is 1,779 acres. By various modern changes of boundaries this has been reduced to 728 acres,¹ of which the population in 1901 was 45,333.

The town is of comparatively recent growth, the oldest portion being that opposite the parish church on the north bank of the Croal, and to the east of Bank Street and its continuation, formerly called Manor Street, and now Kay Street. This street turns west to join the road to Blackburn, a northward continuation of Bridge Street in Great Bolton, now one of the principal thoroughfares of Little Bolton. From Bank Street, another street—Barn Street and Folds Road—goes north-east to Turner Bridge, where it crosses the Tonge. From this point Waterloo Street proceeds north-west to cross Blackburn Road, and is continued as Halliwell Road. From Bridge Street, St. George's Road leads west to Chorley Old Road, from which Chorley New Road branches off. Marsden Street leads south from St. George's Road into Great Bolton. These are the main thoroughfares on which the northern half of the town has been formed.

Gilnow lies on the south-west border.² Some districts are called from the rising ground on which they are built, as Mill Hill in the east and School Hill near the centre.

In this township are a small part of Bolton or Queen's Park, Thomasson Park, with its museum, and a recreation ground beside the Tonge. The corporation has gas-works near Folds Road.

The Lancashire and Yorkshire Company's line from Bolton to Blackburn passes through the south-east corner, and has a branch to Astley Bridge, with goods stations. The electric tramways serve for passengers.

Although in 1666 there were seventy-one hearths liable to the tax, only one house had as many as four hearths.³

What has been said regarding the industries of Great Bolton applies generally to this township. There are large cotton mills, bleach works, engineering and machine works, where all kinds of cotton-spinning machinery are made.

Like Great Bolton this township was governed by the officers appointed annually at the court leet; the principal was called the borough reeve, in imitation of the other township, for Little Bolton was never a borough. On the incorporation of Bolton in 1838 the greater part of Little Bolton was included, and the remainder has now come within the borough. Under the first Improvement Act of 1792 a town hall was built in Little Bolton in 1826; it is now used as a branch of the free library. Another Improvement Act was obtained in 1830. For Astley Bridge, including parts of Little Bolton and Sharples, a local board was formed in 1864.⁴

Like Great Bolton *LITTLE BOLTON MANOR* was part of the Marsey fee, being in 1212 held of Randle de Marsey by Roger de Bolton as one plough-land, by the service of the twelfth part of a knight's fee.⁵ The Bolton family

⁹⁷ Afterwards the Woolpack Inn; see *Lancs. and Ches. Hist. and Gen. Notes*, ii, 159.

⁹⁸ Nightingale, op. cit. iii, 3-15; Scholes and Pimblett, op. cit. 345-53. Reference is made to Baker's *Rise and Progress of Nonconformity in Bolton*.

⁹⁹ Ibid. 353.

¹⁰⁰ Ibid. 378.

¹⁰¹ Ibid. 379.

¹⁰² Ibid. 393.

¹⁰³ *End. Char. Rep. for Bolton County Borough*, 1904; Gastrell, *Notitia*, ii, 13. For the school library see Christie's *Old Lancs. Libraries* (Chet. Soc.), 111.

¹⁰⁴ *Pal. Note Bk.* ii, 58.

¹ Including 22 acres of inland water; Census Rep. of 1901. As an independent township it ceased to exist in 1895, being merged in the new township of Bolton; Loc. Govt. Bd. Order 33407.

² In 1773 the tenement called 'Gilnough' in Little Bolton was assigned by James Livesey of Great Bolton, innkeeper, to James Marsland at £25 rent; it had been lately occupied in succession by Richard Livesey and John his son. It had been leased to the Liveseys in 1717 by John Moss of Manchester; Free Lib. D. Manchester, no. 117.

³ Subs. R. Lancs. bdle. 250, no. 9.

⁴ *Lond. Gaz.* 28 Jan. 1864.

⁵ *Lancs. Inq. and Extents* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), i, 71. Roger de Bolton, perhaps a son, occurs in 1254; *ibid.* 193; while in 1302 the heirs of Robert of Little Bolton held the twelfth part of a fee; *ibid.* 314. The Plea Rolls give little assistance. In 1253 Roger of Little Bolton was one of several defendants in a claim for money owing; Curia Regis R. 148, m. 42 d.; 154, m. 9 d.; while in 1292 John and Alexander, sons of Roger, were non-suited in a claim to prove their

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continued to hold this manor—which included Haulgh, part of Tonge, and parts of Sharples—down to the 17th century. But little is known of them. Roger de Bolton died in 1421 holding the manor of Little Bolton by the services mentioned; Roger his son and heir was twenty-four years of age.⁶ Another Roger Bolton died in 1473 holding the manor, leaving as heir his son Robert, twenty-two years of age.⁷ William Bolton, the son and heir of Robert, died 14 October 1554 in possession of the manor and



BOLTON. *Sable a falcon argent.*

lands in Little Bolton, Great Bolton, and Tonge, rendering the services above stated, and leaving his son Robert, then twenty-three years of age, as his heir.⁸ Robert died six years later, leaving as heir his son Robert, only eleven years old.⁹ The younger Robert died in 1579, and the heir, his son Richard, was again a minor eight years of age.¹⁰ Richard Bolton in 1599 sold or mortgaged the manor and all or most of his lands to Robert Bolton¹¹ of Acton Grange near Frodsham, who died in 1604,¹² but he recovered possession of at least a portion of the estate, and in 1610 transferred the manor to Thomas Ireland and Thomas Heaton.¹³

The former of these, Sir Thomas Ireland of Bewsey, died possessed of the manor in 1625,¹⁴ and a few years

freedom against Roger de Bolton; Assize R. 408, m. 29; and Ellis son of Henry de Tonge unsuccessfully claimed a teneement in Great Bolton against the same Roger; *ibid.* m. 8, 44. Roger de Bolton held a third part of Duxbury in 1288; *Lancs. Inq. and Extents*, i, 270. Robert son of William de Bolton was defendant to a claim for lands in Tonge and Great Bolton in 1278; Assize R. 1268, m. 11 d., 12d. In 1292 Roger and William de Bolton attested a Farnworth charter; Lever Chartul. (Add. MS. 32103), no. 52. In 1299 Robert de Bolton and Roger the Clerk of Little Bolton are witnesses; *ibid.* no. 72. Roger de Bolton occurs in 1321; *ibid.* no. 86.

Roger de Middleton (*sic* for Little Bolton) in 1324 held 'a hamlet called Bolton' by homage and the service of the twelfth part of a knight's fee; also paying 10d. a year for ward of Lancaster Castle, and 2s. 6d. for sake fee; Dods. MSS. cxxxi, fol. 37b. About the same time Roger de Bolton was plaintiff and defendant in suits concerning Little Bolton and Tonge, his opponent being John de Tonge; Assize R. 425, m. 2; R. 426, m. 7 d.

Again in 1346 Roger de Bolton held the twelfth part of a knight's fee in Little Bolton and paid 2s. 6d.; Add. MS. 32103, fol. 146.

In suits of 1351 and later, Robert son of Roger de Bolton and Margaret his wife were parties; see the account of Moston.

Roger de Bolton settled his manor of Little Bolton on his son Robert and his issue by Margaret his wife, as stated in a deed of 1385 respecting the marriage of Robert's son Roger; Rivington D. in possession of Mr. W. H. Lever. The last-named Roger had a son Robert living in 1445; see the account of Rivington.

Robert de Bolton was witness to a Great Lever deed in 1378, and Richard de Bolton to an Anderton one in 1399; Lever Chartul. no. 101, 105.

⁶ *Lancs. Inq. p.m.* (Chet. Soc.), i, 144; in a note it is added 'Roger son of Robert Bolton had a pardon 3 Hen. V.—Patent Roll.' John son of Ellis de Bradshagh in 1410 acknowledged a debt of £100 to Roger son of Robert de Bolton; Towneley MS. RR, no. 1628. Another version of the inquisition is dated 5 Hen. V, and Roger the son is stated to be twenty years of age; Harl. MS. 2085, fol. 444b. For the livery of the manor see *Dep. Keeper's Rep.* xxxiii, App. 20.

Roger de Bolton held the sixth part of a knight's fee in 1431; *Feudal Aids*, iii, 96.

In 1445–6 it was recorded that Roger de

Bolton held the tenth part of a knight's fee in Bolton and Tonge; Duchy of Lanc. Knights' Fees, 2/20. At the same time Roger de Bolton and his sons Roger and John are mentioned; Pal. of Lanc. Plea R. 8, m. 2.

⁷ *Lancs. Inq. p.m.* (Chet. Soc.), ii, 101; the clear value of the manor is given as 52s. 4d. There was, however, another inquisition made many years later, in 1504, when it was found that Roger Bolton died 3 Apr. 1482, and that Robert his son and next heir was then twenty-four years of age. The estate is called the manor of Little Bolton, ten messuages, 100 acres of land, 30 acres of meadow, 10 acres of wood, 60 acres of moor, and 200 acres of pasture, held of the king as of his duchy by knight's service, and worth £10 clear a year. Robert the son was living in 1504; Duchy of Lanc. Inq. p.m. ii, no. 13.

Roger Bolton in 1472 complained of an assault upon him at Little Bolton by Roger Hulton of Hulton and others of the family; Pal. of Lanc. Writs Proton. file 12 Edw. IV.

Robert Bolton in 1528 granted to Roger Brownlow certain lands in Little Bolton and an attachment of the stream at Longeyes in exchange; Harl. MS. 2112, fol. 132b/168b. William the son and heir of Robert Bolton had livery of the manor and estates in 1551; *Dep. Keeper's Rep.* xxxix, App. 550.

In 1549 there was a suit between William Bolton and Ellen Bolton, widow, *alias* Rawson; *Ducatus Lanc.* (Rec. Com.), ii, 99.

⁸ Duchy of Lanc. Inq. p.m. x, no. 8. The inquisition recites a grant by Robert the father of William to Agnes widow of Richard Worthington, including Howcroft, with lands in Little Bolton, for her life; she was still living. William Bolton was also seised of the services of George Haulgh, Archdeacon William Knight, and Roger Lever, for certain lands in Bolton, &c. For the livery to Robert son and heir of William, see *Dep. Keeper's Rep.* xxxix, App. 551.

⁹ Duchy of Lanc. Inq. p.m. xi, no. 54. William Bolton the father of Robert had held Bolton Hall, twenty messuages, a water-mill, &c., and had in 1545 granted to a younger son, Edmund Bolton, a teneement in Little Bolton for life. Robert Bolton had granted annuities to George Bolton of Clement's Inn, and Edmund and Peter Bolton; the two last were his brothers. Before his death he made some provision for his daughters Jane, Barbara, and Margaret.

A settlement by Robert Bolton the

elder was made in 1558; Pal. of Lanc. Feet of F. bdl. 20, m. 19.

Edmund Bolton was defendant in 1586; *Ducatus Lanc.* (Rec. Com.), iii, 189.

The wardship and marriage of the heir were granted to Christopher Anderton; *Dep. Keeper's Rep.* xxxix, App. 551.

¹⁰ Duchy of Lanc. Inq. p.m. xiv, no. 15. Particulars of former grants are given; Edmund the son of William Bolton the grandfather was still living; Elizabeth the widow of William was in possession of her dower lands and living at Chester; Eleanor widow of Robert son of William was living at Pennington. Robert the son of Robert had a wife Lettice and daughters Alice, Margaret, Harebottell, and Jane; he had bequeathed to Robert Bolton, son of the above-named Edmund, the house, &c., held by Edmund for life. An entail on the heirs male had been made in 1579, the day before Robert's death.

¹¹ Pal. of Lanc. Feet of F. bdl. 61, no. 173. The purchaser was probably the Robert son of Edmund of the preceding note. The grant included the manor, with messuages, water-mill, and lands in Great and Little Bolton, Sharples, Tonge, and Haulgh.

¹² *Lancs. Inq. p.m.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), i, 11: the 'manor' is not named, but there were twenty messuages, a fulling-mill, 100 acres of land, &c., which Robert Bolton by his will gave to his brother Peter, together with all moneys due for the redemption of the same. Eleanor widow of Robert the grandfather of Richard Bolton was still living at Pennington as widow of James Starkie; and Lettice widow of Robert the father was living at Little Bolton as widow of Thomas Mort. The next-of-kin of the deceased Robert Bolton was his nephew Robert son of William Bolton.

Peter Bolton, to whom the estate had been bequeathed, died in 1605, but the inquisition was not taken till 1612. Eleanor Starkie died in 1609, but Lettice Mort was still living; the heir, as before, was Robert son of William Bolton; *ibid.* i, 196.

¹³ Pal. of Lanc. Feet of F. bdl. 78, no. 43; the manor of Little Bolton and lands, &c., in that township only were included. See also *Lancs. and Ches. Recs.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), ii, 242, 244. There was a recovery of the manor in 1622; Com. Pleas Recov. R. Hil. 19 Jas. I, m. 9.

¹⁴ Duchy of Lanc. Inq. p.m. xxvi, no. 58; the tenure was knight's service. Sir Thomas also held the tithes of the township.

later it was by his son Thomas included in a settlement.¹⁵ It descended to Gilbert Ireland of Hale,¹⁶ and by him was sold in 1670 to Thomas Marsden.¹⁷ A later Thomas Marsden¹⁸ by his will directed a sale, and John Moss of Manchester, woollen draper, purchased it in 1716;¹⁹ he was succeeded by his son John Moss,²⁰ and his grandson James Moss,²¹ who died without issue. The manor then went to the heir-at-law, John Gartside of Manchester, a cousin, who died in 1817, having bequeathed this manor and other estates to his nephew Thomas Tipping.²² The



TIPPING. *Argent a bull's head erased sable, armed or, on a chief of the second three pheons of the field.*

new lord was in 1846 succeeded by his son Gartside, and in 1890 by the latter's son Mr. Henry Thomas Gartside-Tipping of Quarr Wood, Isle of Wight.

Little Bolton Hall is a small rectangular building, its external measurement being about 46 ft. 6 in. in length by 30 ft. in width, with a slightly projecting portion on the north side and a south-west wing nearly 20 ft. square. Its situation is very striking. In 1833 it was described as standing in an isolated part on a woody bank above the River Tonge;²³ but the house is no longer isolated, and the high bank on which it stands above the curve of the river on the east side is totally bare of foliage. But though its surroundings are mean and ugly, and it is overshadowed on the west by a high railway viaduct, it is not hard even now to imagine the former beauty of its position, and the defensive strength of its site.



LITTLE BOLTON HALL

¹⁵ Pal. of Lanc. Feet of F. bdle. 119, no. 22. Thomas Ireland died in 1639, leaving a daughter and heir Margaret; Duchy of Lanc. Inq. p.m. xxviii, no. 9.

¹⁶ Pal. of Lanc. Feet of F. bdle. 150, m. 70; the deforciant was Sir Gilbert Ireland and his wife Margaret, who was the heir of Thomas Ireland.

¹⁷ Ibid. bdle. 185, m. 124; the purchase included the manor with messuages, water grain-mill, and lands in Great and Little Bolton and Tonge, together with tithes.

¹⁸ The remainder of this account of the descent of the manor of Little Bolton is taken chiefly from Scholes and Pimblett, *Hist. of Bolton*, 56. They state that in 1700 the manor was settled by Thomas Marsden on his wife Sarah daughter of William Croxton. This Thomas may be

the Thomas Marsden son of Thomas who matriculated from Christ Church, Oxford, in 1665, being then seventeen years of age; he took the M.A. degree in 1671; Foster, *Alumni Oxon.* Thomas Marsden was a benefactor to the church and parish (Scholes and Pimblett, op. cit. 180, 182), founding a charity school, which is still at work, the endowment having been increased by John Popplewell in 1820; *End. Char. Rep. for Bolton*, 1904, pp. 16, 71.

¹⁹ In 1729 the new owner bequeathed the manor to his son John, but the tithes to the support of All Saints' Church; Scholes and Pimblett, loc. cit. Thomas Moss, one of the sons of John Moss, was a fellow of Manchester Collegiate Church.

²⁰ He settled it in 1733 on his wife

Mary daughter of Jeremiah Bower of Manchester; *ibid.*

²¹ He settled it in 1764 on his wife Appylina daughter of James Bayley of Manchester; *ibid.*

²² See the pedigree of Gartside-Tipping in Burke's *Landed Gentry*; it is said that Thomas was the son of John Tipping by his wife Anne daughter and heir of Robert Gartside. John Tipping was a cousin of Martha wife of Samuel Clowes of Broughton. In 1770 a fine respecting half the manor of Little Bolton, &c., was made between John and Robert Gartside, plaintiffs, and Samuel Clowes and Mary his wife, deforciant; Pal. of Lanc. Feet of F. bdle. 383, m. 76.

²³ Butterworth, *Statistical Sketch of Co. Pal. of Lanc.*

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The house is stated to have been originally of brick and wood-and-plaster,²⁴ but was entirely rebuilt in 1862, when nearly all traces of the ancient building were lost. The roof timbers and principals of the great hall were, however, preserved, and the south side of the house in which the hall is situated was rebuilt in brick between the old timber framing and faced externally with timber and plaster on a low stone base. This timber facing, which is continued round the end of the hall facing east, consists of uprights and straight and diagonal fillings, with a single centre crosspiece, the absence of horizontal lines adding to the apparent height of the elevation. The design, however, does not apparently follow that of the old building, which was of a much plainer description, the constructive timbers only showing with wide plaster spaces between. The rest of the house has been rebuilt in stone in the domestic Gothic style of the middle of the last century, with square-headed windows and tile-covered roofs.

If the former great hall occupied the full length of the south side of the house, it must have been about 42 ft. long by 17 ft. wide, and the spacing of the roof principals, if following out the original arrangement, seems to imply that it did so. The principals are two in number, dividing the roof into three bays of unequal length, the western of which is now divided from the rest by walls, and forms a separate room on each floor; a floor is also inserted in the eastern bay of the hall, so that only the middle bay is now open to the roof. The principals come down to the floor, resting on stone bases, the timbers being quite plain and roughly wrought, the height from floor to ridge being about 25 ft. The purlins are strengthened by wind braces, and the trusses have arched braces rising to the underside of the collars, and king-posts above the collars. The fire-places and windows date from 1862, but the tall window which occupies the full height of the south side of the room probably replaces an old one of similar type. The staircase is on the north side, and preserves its Jacobean twisted balusters and newels. A modern gallery across the east side of

the open bay of the hall gives access to the bedroom above. The cutting up of the hall and the introduction of floors, together with the entire rebuilding, has made the original disposition of the plan impossible to follow. The house was opened in May 1908 as a church house in connexion with the parish of St. John.

Some other owners of land in the township occur; as Humphrey Booth of Salford²⁵ and William Horrobine,²⁶ in the 17th century. In 1782 the lands of John Gartside paid half the land tax; the other estates were small.²⁷

John Norris of Little Bolton, for some slight compliance with the Royalists, had to compound for his estate with the Commonwealth authorities in 1646.²⁸

For the Church of England All Saints', formerly known as the Chapel in the Fields, was built in 1726, and rebuilt in 1871;²⁹ St. George's, 1796;³⁰ St. John's, 1849;³¹ St. James's, 1871;³² St. Matthew's, 1876;³³ St. Barnabas's;³⁴ and at Astley Bridge, St. Paul's, 1848, rebuilt 1869;³⁵ All Souls', 1881.³⁶ The patronage is in various hands. Some of the churches have benefited by the diversion of the Bolton Lectureship endowment.

The Wesleyan Methodists have churches in Bridge Street, built in 1803, Park Street, 1863, and three other places in the township, as well as one at Astley Bridge, opened in 1868. The Primitive Methodists have two; the New Connexion also have two: in St. George's Road,³⁷ and at Brownlow Fold; the United Free Church one, in Albert Place;³⁸ the Independent Methodists two, and a mission hall.³⁹

The Congregationalists have three churches; one of them, in St. George's Road, claims to be the representative of the original chapel in Duke's Alley, Great Bolton; it was opened in 1863.⁴⁰

The Baptists have two churches, named Claremon and Zion, and a third is at Astley Bridge.⁴¹

The Society of Friends, removing from Great Bolton, have had their place of meeting in Tipping Street since 1820.

Among the other places of worship are a Catholic

²⁴ Canon Raines, *Notes to Gastrell's Notitia Cestr.* (Chet. Soc. xix), 12. There is a rough drawing of the building as it was about 1860 now hung in one of the upper rooms.

²⁵ Duchy of Lanc. Inq. p.m. xxvii, no. 44; no details are given.

Roger the Lound of Little Bolton was defendant to a suit by Adam the Purser of Lancaster from 1327 to 1332, respecting goods found on the moors at Bolton in 1322; *De Banco R.* 269, m. 184; *R.* 283, m. 233, &c.

²⁶ Duchy of Lanc. Inq. p.m. xxviii, no. 70; he died in April 1633, holding a messuage, &c.; his son John was eighteen years of age. A Thomas Horobin was defendant in 1586 in a suit respecting lands in Tonge; *Ducatus Lanc.* (Rec. Com.), iii, 175.

²⁷ Land Tax Returns at Preston.

²⁸ His landlord, Sir Orlando Bridgeman, had, at the outbreak of the Civil War, asked John Norris to tell the tenants that each man should provide himself with arms and meet the king at Nottingham. He read the letter, but had never taken active part for the king, and had taken the Negative Oath and National Covenant; he had also found two men for the Parliament, who were slain when Prince Ru-

pert took Bolton. He paid £15 as composition; *Royalist Comp. Papers* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), iv, 223.

²⁹ There is a view of the original chapel in Scholes and Pimblett, *Bolton*, 229. A district was formed for it in 1841; *Lond. Gaz.* 12 Nov. The patronage is in the hands of five trustees of the Tipping family.

³⁰ A district was assigned to it in 1841; *Lond. Gaz.* 12 Nov. It was afterwards endowed with £128 a year; *ibid.* 28 July 1863. The vicar of Bolton is patron. There is a peal of eight bells.

³¹ A district had been assigned in 1846; *Lond. Gaz.* 10 Apr.; for endowment, *ibid.* 10 Aug. 1866. The Crown and the Bishop of Manchester present alternately.

³² The church was opened in 1869. A district was assigned in 1872; *Lond. Gaz.* 23 Apr.; for endowments, *ibid.* 11 July 1873 and 10 June 1881. It is in the gift of three trustees.

³³ A district was assigned in 1875; *Lond. Gaz.* 29 Oct.; for endowment, *ibid.* 15 June 1877. Five trustees hold the patronage.

³⁴ The district was formed in 1896, but a permanent church has not been built; the patronage is in the hands of the Bishop of Manchester and the Bolton Lectureship Trustees alternately.

³⁵ A district was assigned in 1844; *Lond. Gaz.* 3 June. The Crown and the Bishop of Manchester present alternately. There is a peal of five bells.

³⁶ The patronage is vested in five trustees.

³⁷ Opened in 1852.

³⁸ This chapel was originally known as 'Nimmo's,' from the Rev. David Nimmo, an agent of the Town Mission. The Methodists acquired it in 1857, and it was rebuilt in 1881; Scholes and Pimblett, *op. cit.* 368. The New Connexion and Free Church have recently united.

³⁹ Their history, reaching back about a century, has been published in S. Rothwell's *Mem. of Folds Road Chapel*, 1887.

⁴⁰ B. Nightingale, *Lancs. Nonconf.* iii, 30. Blackburn Road Congregational Church was an offshoot from this; started in 1872, an iron church was built in 1877, and the present church was built by Mr. W. H. Lever in memory of his father.

⁴¹ At Astley Bridge there was a meeting of Baptists about 1818, revived again about 1840. Claremont Church, opened in 1869, is a migration from Moor Lane Chapel, Great Bolton, which had become too small; Scholes and Pimblett, *op. cit.* 376-8.

Apostolic (Irvingite) church,⁴² a New Jerusalem of the Swedenborgians,⁴³ a Christian meeting-house, and several mission halls. The Welsh Calvinistic Methodists have a church in Clarence Street.⁴⁴

For Roman Catholic worship there is the church of St. Mary, opened in 1847.

TONGE-WITH-HAULGH

Tange, 1212; Tonge, 1226 and usual; Tong, 1284.

Haulgh, 1338.

Tonge, as its name implies, is a tongue of land, lying between Bradshaw and Tonge Brooks on the east and west sides respectively; it has an extreme length from north to south of about 2 miles, and an area of 830 acres. The population of Tonge and Brightmet was 10,247 in 1901.¹

Haulgh is a similar but much smaller tongue of land between the Croal and Tonge Brook. It has an area of 269 acres. Physically it forms part of Little Bolton, though joined with Tonge to make a township. The population was in 1901 enumerated with that of Great Bolton.²

A road from Bolton Church to Bury passes east through Haulgh and Tonge, lined with houses all the way, and crossing into Brightmet by Tootill Bridge. From Little Bolton a road goes northward through Tonge to Turton and Haslingden; it passes through the village of Tonge, almost in the centre of the township, and from this point other roads go off east towards Bury, and south to join the former road to Bury. The Lancashire and Yorkshire Company's line from Bolton to Blackburn runs north through Tonge; and the same company's railway from Bolton to Bury crosses the southern end of Haulgh, and has a station there called Darcy Lever. The Bolton and Manchester Canal, begun in 1791, starts in Haulgh

at the border of Little Bolton, and goes through the township close to the Croal.

The northern end of Haulgh has long been a suburb of Bolton; the southern end is practically part of Darcy Lever. It contains cotton mills, bleach works, and a paper mill. The Bradford Park recreation ground lies beside the Tonge River. The Chadwick Orphanage is in Haulgh.

Tonge contains one of the Bolton cemeteries at its southern end,³ with the village of Tonge Fold on the Bury road. In the centre is Tonge Moor, with Thicketford to the west. To the north of these lie respectively Lower Wood and Fir Wood. There are several cotton mills, bleach works, dye works, and a paper mill. A colliery is worked; bricks formerly were made.

A popular festival called Tonge Fold or 'Tum Fowt' wakes was celebrated on 29 May.⁴

A barrow in Haulgh was opened in 1821.

Alexander Norris's house had six hearths liable to the tax in 1666; there were sixty others in the smaller houses.⁵

Haulgh was incorporated with Bolton on the formation of the borough in 1838, and was merged in the new township of Bolton in 1895.^{6a} In 1898 Tonge also was included within the township and borough.^{6b}

In 1212 it was found that Gilbert de *MANORS* Tonge held an oxgang of land in *TONGE* by 4s. rent.⁷ The estate continued in the local family for some time,⁷ for in 1346 William de Tonge was holding 60 acres in Tonge in Bolton in socage by the ancient rent of 4s.⁸ Later it was divided; one half being held by the Haugh or Haulgh family by a tenure variously described, and the remainder by the Hiltons of Brindle.⁹

In the latter moiety was the house known as the Hall i' th' Wood,¹⁰ held in the 16th century by a family named Brownlow,¹¹ and later by a branch of

⁴² It was opened in 1877.

⁴³ This denomination, known in Bolton in 1781, had a meeting-place in Bury Street early last century. This was abandoned to the Latter Day Saints in 1844 and the present church erected. Samuel Crompton, the inventor, was connected with this society; Scholes and Pimblett, *op. cit.* 378, quoting James Dakeyn's *Hist. of the Bolton New Ch. Soc.*

⁴⁴ This was opened in 1872.

¹ *Census Returns.*

² *Ibid.*

³ It was opened in 1857.

⁴ Baines, *Lancs.* (ed. 1836), iii, 87.

⁵ Subs. R. Lancs. bdlc. 250, no. 9.

^{6a} Loc. Govt. Bd. Order 33407.

^{6b} By the Bolton, &c. Extension Act, 1898. It had been made a township in 1894; Loc. Govt. Bd. Order 31690.

⁷ *Lancs. Inq. and Extents* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), i, 71; see also pp. 137, 301.

In 1278 Gilbert de la Greenhurst claimed two messuages and various lands in Tonge against Robert son of William de Bolton and Alexander de Wood, as his inheritance; Assize R. 1268, m. 12 d.

A part of Tonge, probably afterwards included in the holding of the Marsey fee of Bolton; Ormerod, *Ches.* (ed. Helsby), i, 37.

⁷ Elias de Tonge occurs in 1254 and 1288; *Inq. and Extents*, i, 193, 270; in the latter year he held a third part of Duxbury. John de Tonge also occurs in 1288; *ibid.* 268. Ellis son of Henry de

Tonge occurs in 1292; Assize R. 408, m. 8, 44.

In 1310 John son of Ellis de Tonge was pardoned for the death of William de Sharples; *Cal. Pat.* 1307-13, p. 298. He in 1324 held the oxgang by 4s. for sake fee; Dods. MSS. cxxxi, fol. 37b. John and William de Tonge contributed to the subsidy in 1332; *Exch. Lay Subs.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), 37.

⁸ Add. MS. 32103, fol. 146.

⁹ In 1445-6 John Haugh and Hugh de Hilton of Brindle, heirs of William Tonge, held 40 acres in socage as an escheat, each rendering 2s. yearly; Duchy of Lanc. Knights' Fees, 2/20. An account of the Haugh or Haulgh family is given below. Oliver Hilton was in 1525 the owner, and Roger Hilton the occupier, of a messuage, 10 acres of land, &c., in Tonge; Pal. of Lanc. Feet of F. bdlc. 11, m. 174.

¹⁰ See a full account of the house by Mr. W. Fergusson Irvine, in *Trans. Hist. Soc.* (new ser.), xix-xx, 1-41; there are views and a plan. This has been used in the following notes.

¹¹ Lawrence Brownlow in 1483 demised to Roger his son and heir and Margaret his wife certain land in Little Bolton; Huntroyde D. B 19 (by Mr. Anderton).

Roger, son and heir of Lawrence Brownlow, in 1499 granted to Robert Bolton of Little Bolton certain land in 'Heghes in Warthes' in the hamlet of Tonge in Bolton, at a rent of 6s. 8d.;

for this an exchange seems to have been made in 1528; Harl. MS. 2112, fol. 132b/168b. Roger's son Lawrence was in 1499 to marry Margery daughter of Robert Bolton; Huntroyde D. B 20.

Lawrence Brownlow by his will dated 1550 left all his lands in Tonge held of Oliver Hilton to his son Roger, with the provision that none of the sapling trees were to be sold. His widow, while unmarried, was to have Lower Wood in Tonge, with liberty to 'get coals' (or turf). A burgage in Bolton and land in Longholme, 'parcel of his demesne of Wood,' were left to Roger; the younger sons were to be 'kept to learning at good schools' until they could read and write; Irvine, *op. cit.* 24-7. By 1560 the widow had married again, and the younger children tried to obtain the house, &c., given to the widow; *ibid.* 30 (quoting Duchy of Lanc. Plead. Eliz. xlv, no. 19).

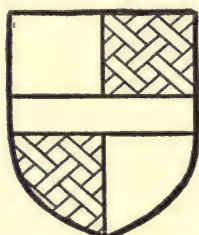
The inventory of the goods of Roger Brownlow of Tonge was exhibited by his son Lawrence on 28 Feb. 1577-8; Roger seems to have died in the previous August; *ibid.* 27-9. It begins with a 'Bible of the largest volume,' worth 20s.

A settlement of the capital messuage, water-mill, two fulling-mills, with other houses, lands, &c., in Tonge, Bolton, and Turton, was made in 1581 by Lawrence Brownlow and Roger son and heir of Charles Brownlow; Pal. of Lanc. Feet of F. bdlc. 43, m. 187. Roger was the cousin of Lawrence; there had been a

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the Norris family.¹³ Christopher Norris, who died in 1639, held fifteen messuages, a corn-mill, two fulling mills, and lands in Tonge of the heirs of Edward Hilton, late of Brindle, in socage, by a rent of 12d.¹³ Alexander Norris, his son, took the Parliament's side in the Civil War, and was treasurer of the Sequestration Committee in Lancashire.¹⁴ His elder daughter Alice married John Starkie of the Huntroyde family,¹⁵ and Hall i' th' Wood descended in this family until 1899.¹⁶

Hall i' th' Wood, as it is usually called, stands in what must formerly have been a romantic situation near the edge of Tonge Moor, crowning a steep cliff overlooking the Eagley Brook. Of the woodland which gave the house its name little or nothing remains, though the view up the valley northwards yet retains some elements of picturesqueness. The approach to the house was formerly only from the moor, the road down the hillside on the north being of comparatively modern date.



NORRIS. Quarterly argent and gules, in the second and third quarters a fret or, over all a fesse azure.



STARKIE of Huntroyde. Argent a bend sable between six storks proper.

The original house was a timber and plaster building on a low stone base, dating probably from the end of the 15th or beginning of the 16th century. A stone-built north-west wing was added in 1591, and in the middle of the 17th century a south-west wing and a south porch, also of stone. The 17th-century work harmonizes very well with the earlier timbered building, producing a very picturesque if unpremeditated effect as the house is approached from the south-east.

The building, which is of two stories with attics, roofed with stone slates, is very irregular in plan, and follows no recognized type. The older part of the house, however, preserves the usual arrangement of the great hall, standing north and south, with screens and passage at the lower end, though the screens have now disappeared. Beyond the passage to the north are two rooms, presumably the former kitchen and

pantries, but this part of the building has been so much altered in later times, and in the recent restoration, that the exact arrangement has been lost.

The history of the house would seem to be as follows:—The original building of timber and plaster which now forms the whole of the east and part of the south side was probably in form and extent much as at present, with the main roof of the hall running north and south, and with a cross roof at the north end. The plan may have been T-shaped, with a very short cross-piece, but was most probably a parallelogram about 55 ft. long and 23 ft. wide, with a slightly projecting wing at the north-east. The whole of this building was presumably of timber and plaster on a stone base. Later the north and north-west sides were rebuilt in stone, and at the same time the west wall of the north front appears to have been advanced about 6 ft., giving more space to the kitchen and room over. From the middle to the end of the 16th century Hall i' th' Wood preserved its original plan with the exception of this extension on the north-west, but its aspect must have been much changed by the stone facing on its north and west sides. The thickness of the wall between the kitchen and the later extension westward, and the signs of weather on its west face, would seem to show that it was originally built as an outer wall, and the arrangement of the roof and ceiling beams of the north part of the building suggests that it is later than the first timber building.

The date of the north-west wing (1591) is over the fireplace in the bedroom on the first floor, together with the initials L^BB, which stand for Lawrence and Bridget (?) Brownlow. The staircase may have been built at the same time,¹⁷ but a joint in the masonry near the angle between it and the north-west wing would seem to suggest that it was rebuilt or refaced at a later date. The north-west wing along with all the exterior stone walling on the north side of the house is of rough coursed rubble with dressed quoins.

A further addition to the house was the south-west wing added by Alexander Norris in 1648, the south porch and south-west staircase being built at the same time. This later portion of the house is faced with ashlar, and has a stone gable to the west with a semi-hexagonal bay window on each floor.

The junction of the 17th-century building with the older timber and plaster work is rather clumsily effected at the top, the stone parapet of Norris's extension butting awkwardly against the side of the timber gable, but otherwise the old and the new work

dispute, ending in Lawrence's making a lease of part of the estate to the use of Charles Brownlow and his heirs male, and in 1594 Lawrence the younger son of Charles claimed possession, his elder brother Roger having died without a son; Irvine, op. cit. 30-2 (quoting Duchy of Lanc. Plead. Eliz. clxii, B, 12; clxviii, B, 17). It seems to be the will (1622) of this Lawrence son of Charles which is printed *ibid.* 29.

Lawrence Brownlow of the Hall built a north-west wing in 1591, as the initials in one of the rooms prove. He died in 1634, and his heir then sold the estate to Christopher Norris; *ibid.* 9, 10, 12. He was among the freeholders in 1600, and contributed to the subsidy in 1622; *Misc. (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.)*, i,

248, 159. He founded a corn charity. He had a son and heir Lawrence; Huntroyde D. B 80-2.

A fine of 1587 regarding the fourth part of an estate in Tonge and Salford, belonging to Alice Balshaye, may have reference to this township; Pal. of Lanc. Feet of F. bdle. 49, m. 244.

¹³ For an account of this family see Ormerod, *Parentalia*, 48-54. The first known member of this branch was Alexander Norris, a prosperous tradesman of Bolton, who died in 1603; his will is printed by Mr. Irvine, op. cit. 32. Christopher Norris was one of his sons, and was a clothier in Bolton.

¹⁴ Duchy of Lanc. Inq. p.m., xxx, no. 26; Irvine, op. cit. 36 (will at p. 35). He also held houses and lands in Bolton

and Turton. The rent paid for Tonge shows that there is another portion not accounted for. Alexander the son and heir was thirty-five years of age.

¹⁵ *Ibid.* 17. He built the south-west wing, the stone-fronted part of the house. He retained his connexion with the Bolton business. His will with inventory is printed *ibid.* 37-40.

¹⁶ The manor of Tonge is named in a deed of 1713 between Piers Starkie of the one part and John Starkie of the other, enrolled in the Common Pleas; R. 40, Hil. 17 Geo. III.

¹⁷ Irvine, op. cit. 19-23, 40.

The position of the original staircase can only be conjectured. It may have been in any of three places, at the north-west, at the south-west, or at the north.



TONGE : HALL 1ST WOOD

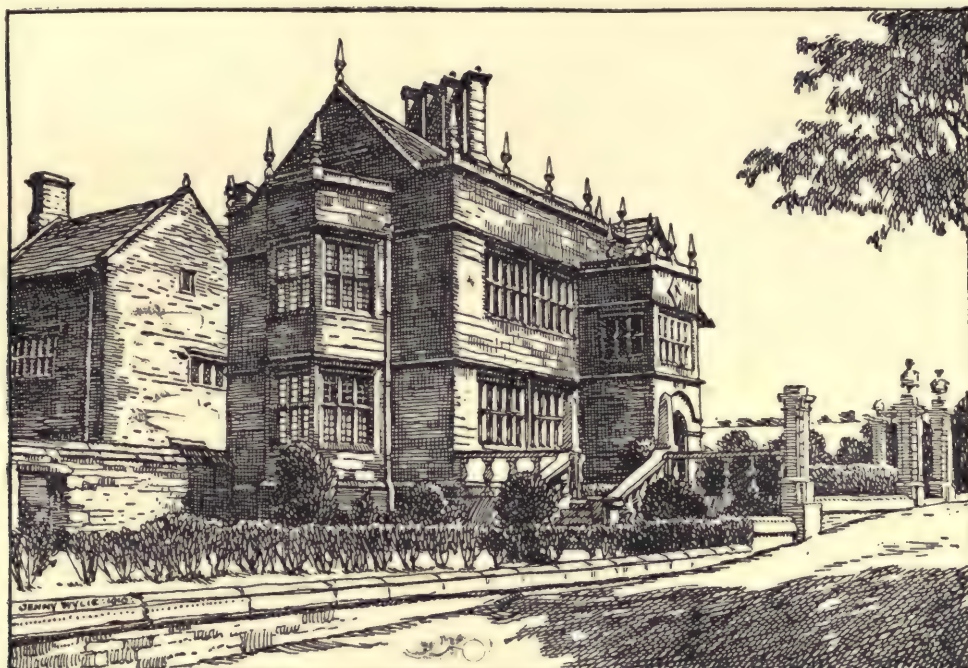
harmonize well enough, and the idea of the long low windows of the timber portion is to some extent carried out in stone in the later work.

The timber framing of the older part of the house is of the usual type in this part of Lancashire, with massive upright and cross pieces, the spaces being filled in with variously ornamented panels. The upper floor stands forward on a slightly projecting cove, and there is a second cove at the level of the eaves, and carried across the gables. Both gables are without barge-boards, and each has a five-light attic window. The north-east bay is treated a little more carefully than the rest, having roughly-carved brackets set at intervals in the plaster cove, while the sill-piece above them is also carved with a square-leaved pattern.

The south porch is of two stories, and projects 8 ft. from the face of the building. The entrance is under a semicircular arch with moulded impost and label.

extension and the ashlar facing of sixty years later. The north elevation has been a good deal rebuilt, especially the west end, through the removal (c. 1890) of some later buildings, which were damaged by a landslip consequent on encroachments by the Eagley Brook.

The hall, which is flagged with stone, measures about 30 ft. long from north to south and 22 ft. in width, and though a good deal repaired it now presents something like its original appearance. The north, east, and south sides show the timber construction, and the west side is occupied by a large stone fireplace rebuilt in the recent restoration and by two doors leading respectively to the two staircases. The two doors formerly on the north side of the passage through the screens are now open to the hall, and had till recently on the north side a lobby, now partly thrown into the kitchen. The hall has a plastered ceiling 12 ft. 6 in. high, crossed by massive



TONGE : HALL 1' TH' WOOD

Over this is a stone bearing the initials $A^N A$, being those of Alexander Norris and Anne his wife. Above is a five-light mullioned and transomed window, with three lights on each return, lighting a small chamber on the first floor. A moulded string-course runs below and above the window, and the parapet is plain with a modern sundial (replacing an older one) on the principal face, and terminates in a string-course and straight-moulded coping ornamented with spiked finials. These finials are continued along the parapet and gable of Norris's building, and are, with the south doorway, the only evidence of distinctly Renaissance feeling on the outside of the house.¹⁸ There are four lead rain-water heads bearing the date 1648, and one of them on the west side has the initials $A^N A$. The west elevation is very irregular, and shows well the contrast between the rubble walling of Brownlow's

beams, and is lighted on the south end by a low transomed window of twelve lights, and on the east by another of six lights. There is also a range of windows placed high up at the north end of the east wall, the three north lights of which formerly lit the passage through the screen.

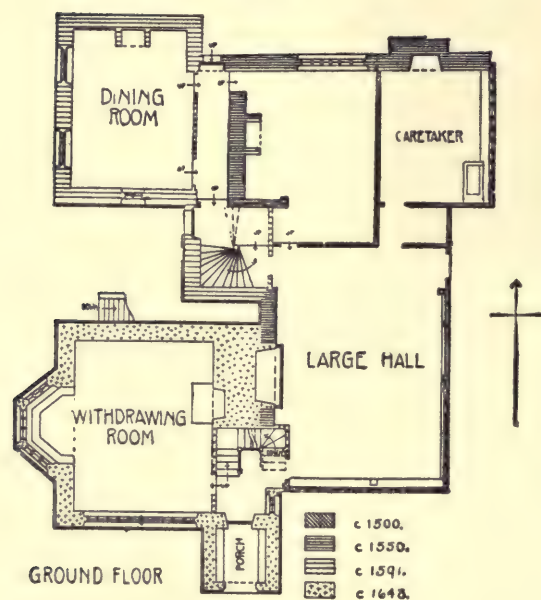
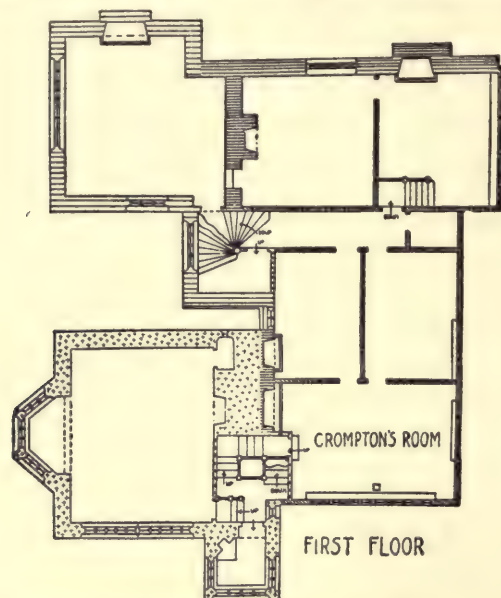
The north-west staircase is of oak with steps radiating from a central newel and built up between walls in a space measuring about 10 ft. by 9 ft. The rooms to the north of the hall have no particular interest. Both have plaster ceilings crossed by beams, that known as the kitchen being lighted on the north by a six-light stone mullioned window, and the other—now used by the caretaker—by a low ten-light mullioned window on the east. The ground-floor room of the north-west wing, which is styled the dining-room, and sometimes the larder, has two low three-light

¹⁸ A formal garden with gates, balustrades, and obelisks has been lately laid out on the south and west, and rather adds emphasis to the late detail.

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mullioned windows on the west side and a two-light window facing south. There is no internal plaster on its stone walls.

On the east side is a wood-and-plaster partition on a low stone base, with a door at each end leading to the passage, the upper part left open and filled in with battens 1 in. square set diagonally. The passage leads to an outer doorway on the north side of



GROUND AND FIRST FLOOR PLANS OF HALL
I' TH' WOOD

the building, evidently a later insertion, as part of the projecting wall of the north-west wing is cut away to allow for it. At the other end the passage opens into the staircase bay, from which there is an outer door on the west. The screen arrangement between this room and the kitchen, and the convenient proximity of the room to the great hall staircase, suggests that it has been used as a dining-room.

The new parlour or drawing-room, built by Alexander Norris, measures 22 ft. by 18 ft. exclusive of the bay, which has a projection of 6 ft. In addition to the bay window it is lighted by a ten-light mullioned and transomed window on the south side. The oak panelling and fireplace were placed here in 1904, and were no part of the fittings of the house, having been brought from Buntingford, Hertfordshire. The ceiling is a modern copy of one formerly in an old house in Deansgate, Bolton. The 17th-century oak staircase, which opens to this room, has a small open well, and is a charming bit of work. It has some good Jacobean ornament, especially in the spandrel facing the entrance porch.

There are four distinct levels on the first floor, accounted for by the difference of height between the great hall and the older rooms on the north side of it, and the two subsequent additions to the house. To this is due the space or cavity 10 ft. by 5 ft. high, with no window, at the north end of the hall under the upper corridor, to which access is gained by a hole near the ceiling on the east side of the kitchen.

There are three rooms over the great hall, the most important being that at the south end known as Crompton's room, which has windows on two sides, and over the fireplace a plaster panel on which are the arms of Starkie. Of the two smaller rooms one is lit only by a small two-light stone window in the narrow space between the staircase bay and Norris's wing. The preservation of some light on this side of the house in the upper floor probably determined the width of the 17th-century addition. The roof spaces, which are open and lit by windows in each principal gable, have floors of beaten clay.

In an inventory of goods attached to the will of Alexander Norris (24 April 1672) the following rooms and places are named at Hall i' th' Wood. All the rooms cannot now be identified, but the new parlour may be taken to mean the ground-floor room of the south-west wing, and the new parlour chamber the room above it.

The Greene Parlour	The Closet
The [name undecipherable] Chamber	Granny's Chamber
Room [name undecipherable]	The Red Chamber
The Kitchen	The Seller
The Larder	The Miller's Room
The Hall	The Chamber over the Miller's
The New Parlour	The Workehouse
The New Parlor Chamber.	The Barn
	The Mill

The five last were probably outside the limit of the present house.

Hall i' th' Wood, built originally presumably by a Brownlow, continued to be the residence of that family till about 1637, when it was purchased by Christopher Norris. Alexander Norris probably took up his residence here when his father died in 1639, and settled the hall on his daughter Alice, on her marriage with John Starkie, c. 1656. Alice Starkie, who became a widow in 1665, seems to have lived at the hall for some years before her father's death in 1672, and continued to reside there till the time of her own decease in 1683. The house appears to have remained unoccupied till 1689, when her second son Nicholas Starkie came to live there, but he

left before 1697. The Starkies have left their arms in plaster over the fireplace in a room over the hall. With the 18th century Hall i' th' Wood entered on evil days. It rapidly fell from its high estate and was divided into tenements and let to farm labourers and weavers. One of these was the father of Samuel Crompton, the inventor of the spinning mule, who came to live there soon after 1753.¹⁹ Here Crompton spent his childhood and youth, and it was in Hall i' th' Wood that he invented and perfected his machine, which at first was called after the name of the house. The Cromptons lived on the south side of the house, probably in the rooms over the drawing-room and the south end of the great hall. The latter room is still called 'Crompton's Room.' He brought his spinning mule to perfection after five years' arduous labour, and he is said to have hidden his invention in the loft above in fear of the machine-wreckers who were then ravaging the district. Two small subscriptions were made for him,²⁰ and in 1812 the Government granted him £5,000. This he invested unfortunately, and died in Bolton in 1827 in poverty.²¹ The Cromptons left Hall i' th' Wood in 1785, and from that date down to 1895 the house was occupied by one family of tenant farmers. In order to evade the window tax the first-floor windows in the east gable were for a long time boarded up. The bottom part of the old newel staircase was cut away and the space made into a pantry. Two other staircases had been introduced, one behind the screen and another between the dining-room and the kitchen, and the building had generally suffered very much from dilapidation and alteration. In 1899 it was purchased by Mr. W. H. Lever, who handed it over to the corporation of Bolton together with a sum of money

for its restoration. The restoration was very carefully carried out, the windows which had formerly been blocked up opened out, the old staircase restored in the lower story, and the more modern staircases removed. The building was opened to the public as a museum in July 1902. The exhibits are chiefly meant to illustrate the cotton-spinning industry, and the life and work of Crompton, but there are in addition a large number of pieces of ancient furniture, &c., principally belonging to the 16th and 17th centuries.

Little further is on record regarding this part of the township.²²

The manor of HAULGH appears to have been taken from Bolton.²³ It is mentioned as early as 1338, when there was a suit regarding it.²⁴ It was held for many generations by a family using the local surname, who, as above stated, also held a moiety of Tonge.²⁵ Roger Haugh died on 25 November 1513, holding ten messuages, 200 acres of land, &c., in 'the Haghe, a hamlet of Bolton,' of Robert Bolton, by the service of a rose annually; Richard, his son and heir, was fifteen years of age.²⁶ John Haugh died there 2 February 1596-7 holding the family estates, leaving a son and heir John, aged twelve.²⁷ The younger John died in 1619, holding Haulgh by the same service of Sir Thomas Ireland as lord of Little Bolton, and was succeeded by his brother George, about twenty-seven years of age.²⁸ About this time the manor was sold to the Bridgemans, and has descended regularly to the Earl of Bradford.²⁹

The land tax in 1796 was entirely paid by the holdings of — Starkie and Sir Henry Bridgeman.³⁰

Tonge Moor was inclosed in 1818.³¹

In connexion with the Church of England St. Augustine's, Tonge Moor, was erected in 1884-6;

¹⁹ The Crompton family occur in the township from the 16th century; thus Lawrence Brownlow's walk-mill was in 1550 occupied by a William Crompton; Irvine, op. cit. 25. The will of Betty Crompton of Hall i' th' Wood, widow, was proved in 1799; she left her little property to her three children—Samuel Crompton, Rebecca Horrocks, and Mary Hamer; *ibid.* 41. Samuel was born at Firwood Fold in the north-west corner of Tonge in 1753, produced his invention in 1779, and made it public the following year, without protecting himself by a patent.

²⁰ He received £67 gratuity from the manufacturers in 1780, and £500 by subscription about 1800. After he had been reduced to poverty an annuity of £63 was procured by another subscription. The success of the muslin and cambric trades was attributed entirely to his invention. The Bolton workmen subscribed in 1861 to place a monument over his grave in the churchyard, and his statue was erected in Nelson Square, Bolton, in 1862.

²¹ There is a biography by Gilbert J. French, published in 1862. See also *Dict. Nat. Biog.*

²² An Ellis Bradshaw of Tonge paid 10s. to the subsidy of 1541; *Misc. (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.)*, i, 142. Lawrence Bradshaw of Tonge was a freeholder in 1600; *ibid.* 251. He appears down to about 1607, soon after which another Ellis Bradshaw takes his place; *Lancs. Inq. p.m. (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.)*, i, 71, 129. There was a Bradshaw Hall near Tonge in Alkington.

Adam Mort died in 1631 holding mes-

suages, &c., in Tonge of the king; the service is not stated; *Duchy of Lanc. Inq. p.m. xxv*, no. 33.

²³ Haulgh is named among the lands of the Marsey family; Ormerod, *Cheshire* (ed. Helsby), i, 37.

²⁴ Roger de Bolton, chaplain, claimed the manor of Haulgh in Great Bolton against Roger de Little Bolton and others. In defence it was alleged that John de Tonge had died holding it of Roger de Little Bolton by knight's service, and his son John being a minor Roger had taken possession; *Assize R.* 1425, m. 5 d.

²⁵ In 1421 it was stated that John de Haugh held of Roger de Bolton six messuages and 200 acres of land in Haulgh and Tonge in Bolton-on-the-Moors by knight's service and 20d. for the thirtieth part of a knight's fee; *Lancs. Inq. p.m. (Chet. Soc.)*, i, 144. The service does not seem to have been stated correctly, but the portion of Tonge here intended is no doubt that which had belonged to the Marsey fee. The moiety of the thegnage part of Tonge was, as stated above, held by the Haugh family of the duchy by 2s. rent.

²⁶ *Duchy of Lanc. Inq. p.m. iv*, no. 14; the clear value was £4 13s. Roger Haugh also held three messuages, two mills, 40 acres of land, &c., in Tonge, of the king in socage by the yearly rent of 2s. It is recited that John Haugh and George Haugh, the latter the father of Roger, had settled the Tonge property on John Haugh for life; then to Isabel daughter of Ralph Barton for life, and then to Roger Haugh and his heirs.

George Haugh is the next found in

possession; he held the manor in 1546; *Duchy Plead. (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.)*, ii, 220. William Bolton was in 1554 seized of the service of George Haugh, holding a messuage and 20 acres in Tonge and Haulgh by a rent of 20d. a year; *Duchy of Lanc. Inq. p.m. x*, no. 8. In 1547 he made a settlement of ten messuages, &c., in Tonge and Bolton; *Pal. of Lanc. Feet of F. bdl.* 13, m. 308. He appears to have sold a messuage, fulling-mill, &c., in Haulgh to Alexander Sharples in 1556; *ibid.* bdl. 16, m. 3; and to have made another sale in 1570; *ibid.* bdl. 32, m. 85. A further settlement was made in 1579 by George Haugh, Jane his wife, and John his son and heir; *ibid.* bdl. 41, m. 110. George Haugh was a plaintiff in 1578; *Ducatus Lanc. (Rec. Com.)*, iii, 67. Further settlements were made in 1589 and 1596 by John Haugh and Gertrude his wife; *Pal. of Lanc. Feet of F. bdl.* 51, m. 191, 226; 59, m. 4.

Robert Haugh occurs in 1583; *Ducatus Lanc. (Rec. Com.)*, iii, 149.

²⁷ *Duchy of Lanc. Inq. p.m. xvii*, no. 42; his wife Gertrude is mentioned.

²⁸ *Lancs. Inq. p.m. (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.)*, ii, 195. The Haulgh estate included two water-mills and two fulling-mills. The Tonge estate was held of the heirs of Gilbert de Tonge by a rent of 2s.

²⁹ Lands, &c., in Haulgh and Tonge were included in a settlement of the estates of Sir Orlando Bridgeman in 1658; *Pal. of Lanc. Feet of F. bdl.* 163, m. 124.

³⁰ Land tax returns at Preston.

³¹ There is a copy of the award at the County Council Offices, Preston.

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and St. Stephen and All Martyrs', at Lever Bridge in Haulgh, was built in 1844. This church has an open-work spire.³²

The Wesleyan Methodists have churches at Tonge Moor and Tonge Fold, and another in Haulgh. The Primitive Methodists have one at Castle Hill, in the north end of Tonge.

The Congregationalists have a church at Tonge Moor.³³ The Strict Baptists have one at Haulgh.

There is a Spiritual Hall in Haulgh for the Spiritualists.

SHARPLES

Charples, 1212; Sharples and Scharples, 1292.

This large township, stretching from Bolton in a north-west direction for over 6 miles, has an area of 3,999½ acres, and is divided into an upper and lower portion. The former occupies the eastern slope of the range of hills, including Winter Hill and Whimberry Hill, which goes west and north through Smithills, Rivington, and Anglezarke; it contains the district called Hordern, the village of Belmont, and the hamlet of Bromiley, to the east being a large reservoir, part of the Bolton Waterworks, on the boundary between Sharples and Longworth. The lower division is cut in two by a detached portion of Little Bolton; its northern part is called the Folds, and its southern part contains a portion of the town of Bolton, called Astley Bridge.¹ The population of the Belmont portion was 837 in 1901, and that of the southern portion, together with parts of Little Bolton, was 7,674.³

The principal road is that from Bolton to Preston, which passes through the whole length of the township, from Astley Bridge to the boundary of Withnell.

'Sharples in Harwood' contained forty-three hearths liable to the tax in 1666; no house had as many as six hearths.²

The township contains some cotton-mills, the large dye works and print works at Belmont, and a paper

works at Spring Side in Folds. The Eden Orphanage is situated at Astley Bridge.

The southern half was formerly joined with the detached parts of Little Bolton to form the Astley Bridge Local Board district,⁴ and has now been included in the borough and township of Bolton.⁶ The northern part was in 1894 constituted a civil parish with the name of Belmont,⁶ and was in 1898 included in Turton Urban District.⁷

The manor of *SHARPLES* was a member of Manchester fee. It appears to have been assessed as four oxgangs of land,⁸ but one oxgang was in 1212 held of Robert Grelley by Roger de Samlesbury and Alexander de Harwood by a rent of 3s. This may have been an additional oxgang.⁹ Whether it was so or not it appears to have been the most important part of the district, and its lords being also lords of Harwood and Bradshaw the three were held together,¹⁰ and as late as the 17th century the 'hamlet of Sharples' is described as lying 'in the town of Harwood.'¹¹ Another part of Sharples was within the Marsey fee; what were known as the detached portions of Little Bolton were probably its constituents.¹²

The upper and larger part of the township was retained by the lords of Manchester in their own hands, but the Folds, described as 4,000 acres, had in 1427 been occupied by Richard son of Thurstan de Holland, and in 1473 was held by the heir of Henry de Radcliffe. Hordern Solyns, 1,000 acres, was in Thomas La Warre's possession in 1427.¹³

Sharples proper, the one oxgang, appears to have been divided among several immediate holders; the rent also seems to have been increased to 3s. 2d. Thus in 1320 Henry de Trafford paid yearly 3s. 2d. for Sharples, and gave puture of the serjeant and foresters,¹⁴ while Adam de Sharples for the twenty-fourth part of a fee in the same rendered castle ward and puture.¹⁵

The local families adopted the surname of Sharples, and continued to reside for some centuries;¹⁶ one of

³² A district was assigned to it in 1844; *Lond. Gaz.* 3 June; for endowments, *ibid.* 1 Jan. 1867 and 10 June 1881. The church is noteworthy as the first built of terra cotta; this came from neighbouring works; *N. and Q.* (1st Ser.), iii, 27.

³³ Nightingale, *Lancs. Nonconf.* iii, 39.

¹ An Astley family had lands in Sharples in 1577; *Ducatus Lanc.* (Rec. Com.), iii, 51.

² *Census Returns.*

³ Subs. R. Lancs. bdle. 250, no. 9.

⁴ *Lond. Gaz.* 26 Jan. 1864. The district was made a civil parish or township in 1894.

⁶ By the Bolton, Turton, &c., Extension Act, 1898.

⁶ Local Govt. Bd. Order 31690.

⁷ By the Act of 1898.

⁸ Harland, *Mamecestre* (Chet. Soc.), ii, 377; there is, however, a various reading—Holinton. The four oxgangs contributed 2s. each to the maintenance of the foresters of Horwich.

⁹ *Lancs. Inq. and Extents* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), i, 58.

¹⁰ The descent of the lordship of this part of Sharples probably went with Harwood, but cannot be traced clearly. The Earl of Derby, however, appears as a mesne tenant in 1575.

¹¹ *Lancs. Inq. p.m.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), i, 112.

¹² Ormerod, *Cbes.* (ed. Helsby), i, 37. It will be seen in subsequent notes that Sharples was sometimes said to be in Bolton.

¹³ Chan. Inq. p.m. 5 Hen. VI, no. 54. The Folds, 'waste and pasture,' held by Thomas La Warre of the king as of the duchy, was in 1404 granted by him to his feoffees at a rent of £4 6s. 8d.; the Hordern Solyns, also waste and pasture, was granted to the same feoffees at a rent of 13s. 4d. The rents represented the annual value.

For the tenant in 1473 see *Mamecestre*, iii, 481; Folds is called a 'manor,' and the rent of 1d. was due from it to the lord of Manchester.

In 1409 the Folds and Hordern Solyns in 'Harwood' were held by James de Radcliffe of Radcliffe for life, with remainder to Henry de Radcliffe and his heirs; *Lancs. Inq. p.m.* (Chet. Soc.), i, 95. They descended to Thomas Radcliffe, who died childless in 1527, he being son of Thomas son of Geoffrey son of Henry younger son of the above James de Radcliffe; *ibid.* ii, 151; *Duchy of Lanc. Inq. p.m.* vi, no. 45. Afterwards they seem to have been acquired by the Bartons of Smithills.

¹⁴ *Mamecestre*, ii, 290. Henry de Trafford seems to have acquired the right of Roger de Samlesbury and his partner

in 1212. The Trafford family are not named later as lords of Sharples.

¹⁵ *Ibid.* ii, 289. Knight's service is not again named in connexion with Sharples; and Adam de Sharples was probably a sub-tenant of Henry de Trafford.

¹⁶ In 1246 Randle de Sharples acknowledged that he had granted 'Folescalis' in Sharples to his brother Henry; *Assize R.* 404, m. 8 d. Randle de Sharples attested a Great Lever charter; he is called *dominus*; *Lever Chartul.* (Add. MS. 32103), no. 3.

Robert de Sharples, Roger his son, Adam son of Richard de Sharples, William de Coulsaye, and Mabel his wife in 1282 made an agreement with Richard son of Gervase regarding lands in Sharples; *Harl. MS.* 2112, fol. 158b/194b.

Roger de Sharples son of Adam son of Quenilda de Sharples claimed a messuage and lands in 1292 against Adam de Pilkington; *Assize R.* 408, m. 64. The defendant said that he held by the law of England, having married Maud daughter of Amabel, to whom the tenement was given in free marriage; Thomas son of Roger demised the same to Roger de Pilkington, to whom the reversion belonged. It may be added that the charter of Thomas son of Roger de Manchester and nephew of Geoffrey de Manchester, chaplain, the original donor to Amabel, granting the

them, known as Ward *alias* Sharples, appears down to the 17th century.¹⁷ In the absence of documents no proper account can be given of these families. Sharples Hall has for some time been the seat of the Rothwell family; Mr. Richard Rainshaw Rothwell was recently one of the principal landowners.¹⁸

One Roger de Sharples in 1315-16 granted to Sir



SHARPLES of Sharples.
Sable three crescents argent,
between the points
of each a mullet of the
last.

William de Holland, ancestor of the Denton family, his manor of Sharples and all his land there, together with his goods, movable and immovable, in the manor and his share of the waste.¹⁹ Sir William at once granted it to Thurstan son of Margaret de Shoresworth for life.²⁰ Thurstan in 1332 made a feoffment of his lands in the hamlet of Sharples in the vill of Great Bolton and in Harwood;²¹ and in 1335 granted the manor of Sharples to his mother, together with the homages and services of Jordan son of Adam de Sharples and others.²² The Holland family acquired other lands in the hamlet or township,²³ and in 1429 Thurstan de Holland made an agreement

reversion of the land to Roger de Pilkington the brother of Adam, is among Lord Wilton's deeds; see also Harl. MS. 2112, fol. 156/192.

At the same time William son of Maud de Sharples claimed a messuage and lands under a grant by Quenilda de Sharples to Henry de Entwisle and Maud his wife and their issue; the defendant, Henry son of Alexander de Wood, denied that William was of the blood of Henry and Maud—i.e. apparently was the son of Maud, but not of Henry; Assize R. 408, m. 15. A charter for Hayhurst in Sharples by Alexander de Wood to his son Henry is printed in *Various Coll.* (Hist. MSS. Com.), ii, 13.

John son of Elias de Tonge was in 1310 pardoned for the death of William de Sharples; *Cal. Pat.* 1307-13, p. 298.

John de Sharples occurs in 1332; *Excob. Lay Subs.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), 37.

Some further occurrences of the name will be found in the text and notes.

¹⁷ A brief pedigree is printed in the *Visit.* of 1567 (Chet. Soc.), p. 10; it covers the 16th century. That printed in Dugdale, *Visit.* (Chet. Soc.), 269, may be a more correct version of the same.

In 1351 John de Hulton of Halliwell made provision for the marriage of his son Richard to Margery daughter of Adam the Ward of Sharples; *Hulton Ped.* 5. Adam the Ward of Sharples occurs again in reference to lands at Gorton and at Turton in 1369 and 1371; *Coram Rege* R. 434, m. 7; *De Banco* R. 444, m. 173 d. His descendants were probably the Richard Ward of Sharples, a defendant in 1443 (*Pal. of Lanc. Plea* R. 5, m. 96) and the Richard Sharples who paid a rent of 1s. 6d. to the lord of Manchester in 1473; *Mamecestre*, iii, 494.

Alexander Sharples *alias* Ward died in 1588 and was succeeded by his son Richard; *Manch. Ct. Leet Rec.* ii, 29. A settlement of ten messuages and lands in Sharples and Bolton was made by Alexander in 1571; *Pal. of Lanc. Feet of F. bde.* 33, m. 178. From a pleading of 1597 it appears that he, being seised of the manor of Sharples, granted half the estate to his grandson Alexander (son of Richard) on his marriage with Anne [Aughton]; after his death Richard, his heir, entered upon one moiety and Alexander and Anne upon the other. They agreed to exchange, and Alexander in 1593, shortly before his death, mortgaged or sold his part to Ralph Heaton the younger; *Pal. of Lanc. Feet of F. bde.* 55, m. 108. The widow afterwards married Hugh Wood, and complained that a certain Thomas Heaton had conspired with his father-in-law Thomas Anderton and his brother-in-law Christopher Anderton to deprive her of her jointure and secure the wardship of Roger

the son and heir of Alexander, who was born about 1589. The conspirators had shut her up in Thomas Anderton's house at Chorley for four days, and by many threats had induced her to sign an agreement according to their desires; *Duchy of Lanc. Plea. Eliz.* cxcv, W. 2.

Richard Ward *alias* Sharples seems to have lived on till 1613, and Roger the grandson acted as a juror in 1619; *Lancs. Inq. p.m.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), i, 234; ii, 113, 153. Roger Sharples *alias* Ward contributed to the subsidy in 1622; *Misc.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), i, 159.

The family continued more than a century after this. Alexander the son of the last-named Roger died in 1677; he was probably the Alexander Sharples of Bolton presented to the Bishop of Chester as a 'papist' in 1671. He was followed, it would appear, by another Roger, and then by a John Sharples, who died in 1736, aged fifty-six. He left two daughters, Anne wife of Roger Brandwood of Wayoh, and Mary wife of the Rev. Samuel Lawson. In 1749 a partition was effected, by which Sharples Hall came to the latter family. John Lawson the son and heir succeeded, and by his will in 1793 gave Sharples to his son John Sharples Lawson. The heir mortgaged it to Richard Rothwell, rector of Sefton, in 1797, and in 1815 sold it to James Rothwell of Much Hoole for £6,250; *Bolton Hist. Gleanings* ii, 128, 187-9 (from Piccope MSS. xiv, 43-4).

¹⁸ There is a pedigree in H. T. Crofton's *Newton* (Chet. Soc.), ii, 224. See further in the account of Much Hoole.

¹⁹ Harl. MS. 2112, fol. 145/181; there are three charters, and Adam de Sharples attested one of them. John son of Roger de Sharples at the same time released all his right; *ibid.* fol. 156/192.

The Pendlebury family had had an estate in Sharples, which was acquired by Sir William de Holland and his son Thurstan. William son of Roger de Pendlebury granted to John de Prestwich, rector of Whitwell, all the lands in Sharples coming to him on the death of Maud daughter of his brother Ellis de Pendlebury; *ibid.* fol. 145b/181b. Lettice, another daughter of Ellis, released to the same John de Prestwich in 1301 all her interest in the lands in Sharples and Great Bolton granted by her uncle William son of Roger de Pendlebury; *ibid.* 160b/196b. Beatrice, a third daughter, in 1331 released all her right in Sharples in the vill of Great Bolton and Harwood to Thurstan son of Margaret de Shoresworth; *ibid.* fol. 145b/181b. In the meantime, apparently in 1307, John de Prestwich had granted to Sir William de Holland all his lands in Sharples, with rents, homages, wards, reliefs, &c.; *ibid.*

fol. 145/181. Roger de Bindloss of Sharples at the same time released to Sir William all his claim to the lands, rents, &c., including the homage and service of Alexander de Turton; *ibid.* fol. 145b/181b, 158/194.

Another ancient estate also seems to have come into the Hollands' possession—perhaps that of the Alexander de Turton named above. Ellis son of Gamel the White (*Albi*) of Turton granted all his land in Sharples and the Boothstead to his son Alexander; and in 1307 Margery the widow of Ellis son of Gamel released to the same Alexander her right in Sharples in the vill of Bolton; Harl. MS. 2112, fol. 158/194, 159/195.

²⁰ *Ibid.* fol. 145/181.

²¹ *Ibid.* (1) A grant by Thurstan son of Sir William de Holland to William de Halliwell; (2) Re-grant by William son of Richard de Halliwell to Thurstan.

Thurstan [de Holland] son of Margaret de Shoresworth, holding two-thirds of a tenement in Harwood, Joan widow of John de Belowe of Sharples, holding one-third, and others were defendants to a claim made by William de Halliwell in 1325; Assize R. 426, m. 6. The claim was renewed in 1331, when Thurstan's mother was called Margaret del Booth; Assize R. 1404, m. 19. The claim was for common of pasture in 300 acres of moor and pasture in Harwood and Great Bolton.

²² Harl. MS. 2112, fol. 145/181. The original charter is among Lord Wilton's deeds; the under-tenants, in addition to Jordan de Sharples, were William de Halliwell, Alexander de Turton, and Henry del Wood.

²³ Some of these have been mentioned in a previous note. Thurstan de Holland, the son of Sir William, in 1328 procured from John son of Robert de Sharples all his title in the heritage of Jordan de Sharples; *ibid.* fol. 145b/181b. At the same time he obtained Hughurst in Sharples in the vill of Harwood from Robert son of John de Sharples; *ibid.* fol. 157b/193b; while from Roger son of Henry del Wood he regained 8 acres in Sharples granted by Sir William de Holland to the said Henry; *ibid.* fol. 146/182. Thomas son of Alexander de Turton in 1341 granted to Thurstan all his lands in Sharples in the vill of Bolton-on-the-Moors; *ibid.* fol. 145b/181b. In the following year Thurstan acquired lands in Bolton formerly belonging to Mabel daughter of Adam de Sharples; *ibid.* fol. 149/185; also from Maud widow of Adam son of Adam de Sharples, a half-burgage in Bolton; *ibid.* fol. 157b/193b. This half-burgage was in 1350 confirmed to Thurstan by Richard son of Adam and Maud de Sharples; *ibid.* fol. 152/188.

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with Sir Ralph de Radcliffe touching part of a field called Rodenhey, adjoining the road leading from Smithills.²⁴

From the rental of 1473 it appears that the rent of 3s. 2d. was contributed by three occupiers—Richard Sharples, 18d.; Robert Sharples, 10d.; and Richard Holland of Denton, 10d.²⁵ The Holland manor therefore was rather more than a fourth part. It continued to descend with the Denton estates,²⁶ and the Earl of Wilton is now reputed to be lord of the manor.

Lord Fauconberg in 1723 sold, among other lordships, the manor of Sharples, which probably represented the estate descending to him from the Bartons of Smithills, who had held the *FOLDS*.²⁷

The Bradshaws of Bradshaw also had a holding in Sharples,²⁸ and some other owners' names are met with.²⁹ One Lawrence Longworth, of Sharples, was in 1443 bound to array a man-at-arms and three able archers for the king's service.³⁰

The land tax returns of 1796 show that — Wright, Lord Grey de Wilton, and — Lawson were the chief landowners.³¹ The Wright estate has recently been purchased by the Bolton Corporation for waterworks purposes at a cost of £100,000.^{31a}

In connexion with the Church of England St.

Peter's, Belmont, was built in 1850, and had a separate district assigned to it in 1861.³² It has a tower and spire, with peal of six bells.

The Congregationalists began services in or before 1821; the present church at Belmont was opened in 1898.³³

The Roman Catholic church of the Holy Infant and St. Anthony, at Astley Bridge, was opened in 1877.³⁴

LITTLE LEVER

Lefre, 1212; Lethre, 1221; Leuere, 1278; Leur, 1282; Leuer, 1291; Leyver, 1550.

This township is bounded on three of its five sides by the Irwell, the Croal, and Blackshaw Brook, but a small portion projects north of the last-named brook. The village occupies the centre of the area and spreads itself along the roads leading east to Radcliffe, west to Farnworth, and north-west to Bolton. On the southern border is the hamlet of Nob End, and on the eastern that of Stopes. The area is 807 acres.¹ The Bolton and Manchester Canal passes along by the south-west boundary and after descending by six locks crosses the Irwell by an aqueduct; near this the branch canal parts off towards Bury. The population in 1901 was 5,119.

For a settlement in 1368 referring to lands in Harwood see *Final Conc.* ii, 174.

In 1330 Thurstan de Holland complained that certain persons had cut down his trees and done other damage on his lands in Harwood and Little Bolton; De Banco R. 283, m. 181 d.

²⁴ Harl. MS. 2112, fol. 145b/181b, 146/182. One of the series of deeds is among Lord Wilton's muniments. It is a grant by Thurstan de Holland to Sir Ralph de Radcliffe of the fourth part of a field called Rapeden Hey; the bounds began at the bridge leading to Smithills, went to the Foulescoles, across the town-field of Paradise, and by hedges and ditches to the water of Rapeden, descending this to the water of Egburden, then ascending the water of Rapeden as far as the said bridge in Bolton.

In 1560 there was a suit as to Rapeden Hey in Bolton between Hamlet Radcliffe on the one part and Robert Barton and Alexander Ward on the other; *Ducatus Lanc.* (Rec. Com.), ii, 231.

Rapeden Clough divides Smithills from Sharples.

²⁵ *Mamecestre*, iii, 479.

The estate of Robert Sharples seems afterwards to have been divided into three equal parts. Edmund Haworth died at Rochdale in 1598 holding two messuages, &c., in the hamlet of Sharples in Harwood of Nicholas Mosley in socage by a rent of 3½d.; Randle his son and heir was fourteen years of age; Duchy of Lanc. Inq. p.m. xvii, no. 53. Randle Haworth died at Sharples in 1621 seised of a similar estate, leaving James his son and heir, an infant two years old; *Lancs. Inq. p.m.* (Rec. Lancs. and Ches.), iii, 296. Another third part was held by James Birch, who also died in 1621, by the same rent of 3½d.; his son and heir Richard was thirteen years of age; *ibid.* iii, 295. The remaining third was held by Lamuel Openshaw, who died in 1606 holding two messuages, lands, &c., in Sharples in Harwood by the same rent; James Openshaw, the son and heir, was forty-five years old; *ibid.*

i, 112. Lamuel had succeeded in 1597; *Manch. Ct. Leet Rec.* ii, 121.

In 1564 Randle Haworth of Whitworth stated that one John Heyward of Rochdale held a messuage and lands in Sharples, and left a daughter and heir, the mother of Randle; but certain deeds having come into the hands of Margery Sharples of Bolton and Thomas her son, they had expelled him from his possession; Duchy of Lanc. Plea. Eliz. lix, H. 23.

In 1594 Lamuel Openshaw claimed the further Ashlands in Sharples and Harwood against Richard Birch and others; *Ducatus Lanc.* (Rec. Com.), iii, 341.

²⁶ Edward Holland of Denton in 1570 held an estate in Sharples and Harwood of Lord La Warre in socage by a rent of 6d.; Duchy of Lanc. Inq. p.m. xiii, no. 20. The tenement is again mentioned in 1631; *ibid.* xxvii, no. 42. See also *Lancs. Inq. p.m.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), ii, 146.

²⁷ The Barton tenement in Sharples is mentioned in their inquisitions as held of the lords of Manchester. Afterwards they acquired the Folds, perhaps by purchase from the heirs of Radcliffe of Radcliffe (see a former note), for in 1580 Robert Barton of Smithills was found to have held some messuages, lands, &c., in Folds of Sir William West in socage, by the rent of 1d. yearly; Duchy of Lanc. Inq. p.m. xiv, no. 24. See also *Lancs. Inq. p.m.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), i, 211.

Lord Fauconberg's manor of Sharples was registered as a 'papist's' estate in 1717; *Engl. Cath. Nonjurors*, 113. It was sold six years later; Piccope MSS. (Chet. Lib.), iii, fol. 220, from Roll 8 of George I at Preston.

²⁸ Simon de Bradshagh occurs in 1292, when Richard de Urmston and Syreda his wife claimed a messuage, &c., of which Adam de Westleigh, the grandfather of Syreda, had died seised. The defendant Simon said the tenement was given to him in free marriage with Amaria or America his wife; Assize R. 408, m. 32, 77 d.

In the inquisitions of the Bradshaws of Bradshaw in the time of Edward VI and Elizabeth the lands in Sharples were stated

to be held of the Earl of Derby in socage by a rent of 2d.; Duchy of Lanc. Inq. p.m. ix, no. 31; xiii, no. 39.

²⁹ Another Radcliffe family had an estate in Sharples in the 16th and 17th centuries. Robert Radcliffe in 1589 made a settlement of two messuages and lands; Pal. of Lanc. Feet of F. bde. 51, m. 125. From him a James Radcliffe appears to have acquired eight messuages, &c., in Radcliffe and Sharples in 1595; *ibid.* bde. 57, m. 23. James died 20 July 1633, holding a messuage, &c., of Edward Mosley as of his manor of Manchester; Robert his son and heir, was over fifty years of age; Towneley MS. C. 8, 13 (Chet. Lib.), fol. 999.

Alexander Stones in 1571 acquired a toft, &c., from Richard Birch the younger; Pal. of Lanc. Feet of F. bde. 33, m. 7.

Ralph Assheton of Great Lever, who died in 1616, held a messuage and land in Sharples in socage; *Lancs. Inq. p.m.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), ii, 288, 290.

Lawrence Haslam at his death on 6 Aug. 1630, also held a messuage and lands there of Edward Mosley; Lawrence, his son and heir, was three years of age; Towneley MS. C. 8, 13 (Chet. Lib.), fol. 533.

³⁰ *Hist. MSS. Com. Rep.* x, App. iv, 227.

³¹ Returns at Preston; Wright's lands paid two-fifths of the whole.

^{31a} Information of Mr. S. Partington.

³² *Lond. Gaz.* 6 Aug. 1861.

³³ Baines, *Lancs.* (ed. 1836), iii, 90. A Methodist chapel also is stated to have been built in Sharples in 1821. For a full account of Congregationalism in Belmont, see Nightingale, *Lancs. Nonconformity*, iii, 78–81. A second chapel, called Bethel, was erected in 1840, mainly by the efforts of the workmen of the village.

³⁴ It was served from St. Mary's, Bolton, till 1882; Kelly, *Engl. Catholic Missions*, 59.

¹ The 1901 *Census Report* gives 808 acres, including 37 of inland water.

There are numerous coal mines; also cotton mills and bleach works, iron foundry, chemical works, and paper mill. A pottery and a terra cotta factory are worked and bricks are made. The soil is clay; the agricultural land is mostly in pasture.

In 1666 there were sixty hearths liable to the tax; the only large house was that of John Andrews, with nine hearths.²

The township was governed by a local board from 1872³ to 1894, when an urban district council was formed; there are twelve members elected by four wards—Church, Ladyshore, Stopes, and West.

John Seddon, born at Lomax Fold in 1719, became minister of Cross Street Chapel, Manchester, and died there in 1769.⁴

DARCY LEVER

This township is bounded on the west, south, and east by the Croal and its affluents. The general slope of the surface is from north to south. The area is 499 acres. The population in 1901 was enumerated with Great Lever.

The road from Bolton to Little Lever and Radcliffe passes east through the centre, the village of Darcy Lever, practically a suburb of Bolton, lying along the western end of it; and there are other roads leading north and south. The Lancashire and Yorkshire Company's Bolton and Bury railway crosses the Tonge by a long and lofty viaduct and then passes east through the township; and the Bolton and Manchester Canal passes through it, near the Croal, crossing the Tonge by an aqueduct.

The township abounded with coal, but it has practically been worked out. Several mines were worked till recently; one is still in operation. There is a cotton mill at the village. On the southern

boundary, by the Croal, are sewage works of the Bolton Corporation.

Darcy Lever was incorporated with the borough and township of Bolton by the Extension Act of 1898.

There were several large houses in the township in 1666; Robert Lever's had eight hearths liable to the tax, James Bradshaw's and John Crompton's seven each, and Lawrence Fogg's six. There were only twelve hearths in the rest of the township.⁵

The manor of *LITTLE LEVER* formed *MANOR* part of the barony of Manchester, and was assessed as four oxgangs of land. From an early time it was held in moieties. Albert Grelley the younger in the time of Henry II gave one moiety to Alexander son of Uvieth at a rent of $\frac{1}{2}$ mark and a hawk or 12d.⁶ The name of the tenant in 1212 is not given; but in 1227 Adam de Radcliffe was called upon by Robert Grelley to perform suit at his court of Manchester fortnightly instead of monthly.⁷ A little earlier Eugenia, widow of William de Radcliffe, demanded against the same Adam her dower in four oxgangs in Little Lever among other lands.⁸ From this it would appear that the Radcliffes had had a grant of the whole of Little Lever, perhaps between 1212 and 1221. There are later tokens of their connexion with it.⁹

The next lord of the whole or part of Lever is one Leising de Lever, who had part at least of Great Lever also.¹⁰ Possibly descended from him was the Adam de Lever, living in 1246,¹¹ ancestor of the family of Lever of Little Lever,¹² which apparently held a share of the manor till the beginning of the 17th century. In the absence of satisfactory evidence of the descent it can only be stated that in 1320 William de Radcliffe and William de Lever held Little Lever by homage, service, and suit to the court of Manchester, rendering yearly 4d. sake fee, 6s. 8d. rent, also 12d. and providing pature for the serjeant

² Subs. R. Lancs. bdle. 250, no. 9.

³ *Lond. Gas.* 9 July 1872.

⁴ *Dict. Nat. Biog.*

⁵ Subs. R. Lancs. bdle. 250, no. 9.

⁶ *Lancs. Inq. and Extents* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), i, 57; it is stated that 'his heirs hold that land.'

⁷ *Final Conc.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), i, 47, 48.

⁸ *Inq. and Extents*, i, 129, 130, quoting *Curia Regis* R. 78, m. 14 d.

⁹ William son of Ellis de Lever and Ellis son of Adam de Lever were in 1309 summoned to show by what services they held their tenements in Little Lever of Richard son of Robert de Radcliffe; *De Banco* R. 179, m. 206. See also the following notes. Nothing is said of it in any of the Radcliffe inquisitions.

¹⁰ See the account of Great Lever in Middleton.

¹¹ There were cross-suits concerning the wood and waste in 1246 between Adam de Lever and Adam de Radcliffe; *Assize* R. 404, m. 5 d.

In 1276 Henry son of William de Lever (Parva) claimed the manor of Little Lever against Adam of the same, and messuages in Great Lever against Ellis de Lever; *De Banco* R. 13, m. 11.

¹² In the Lever of Great Lever Chartulary (Add. MS. 32103) are some charters referring to the Little Lever family. Adam de Lever and Ellis his son attested a grant; no. 45. Ellis son of Adam de Lever granted to William his son and his

heirs a portion of his land in Little Lever. The bounds began at 'the Langcestre' (alias Hanycestre) where Denebrook fell into the great water called Lever (alias Letoce); ascended the brook to a ditch dividing Little Lever and Brightmet as far as the Menesshaw; went down to the Tonge water, and down this to the first division. These boundaries are, roughly speaking, those of the present township of Darcy Lever. The grant included the homage of Richard del Snape, who paid 13d. rent, and other services; and the land was to be held of the chief lords of the fee by a rent of 4s., paid at the four terms, and by such other services as Ellis had rendered for the whole manor of Little Lever; *ibid.* m. 219. This grant was confirmed by a fine in 1292, when the estate is called a moiety of the manor of Little Lever; *Final Conc.* i, 167. In 1310 a settlement of this moiety of the manor was made by William de Lever and Lettice his wife; *ibid.* ii, 4.

In the same year William de Lever called upon Richard son of Robert de Radcliffe to acquit him of the services demanded by Thomas Grelley. William held the moiety of Little Lever by a rent of 4s., and Richard should perform the suit at the court of Manchester; *De Banco* R. 183, m. 214.

Ellis de Lever acted as a juror in 1282; *Inq. and Extents*, i, 244, 250; and William was acting in 1288; *ibid.* 268. In 1291 Richard de Radcliffe claimed a tenement

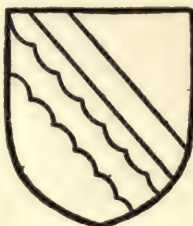
in Little Lever and Pilkington against Ellis de Lever and Henry the reeve of Gorton; *Assize* R. 1294, m. 9.

William de Lever was not the heir of his father, but another son, Adam, mentioned in 1297, when Ellis was still living; *Lever Chartul.* no. 69. In 1309 it was found that Ellis, son of Adam de Lever was the heir and, being a minor, was in the guardianship of Richard de Radcliffe. The estate in Little Lever was described as eight messuages, 60 acres of land, &c., held of the said Richard by fealty and the service of 8s. and not by knight's service. The claim to wardship was therefore rejected by the jury. Adam de Lever's widow appears to have been living, for only five messuages, 40 acres of land, &c., were restored to his heir; *Assize* R. 423, m. 1 d.

In 1331 a settlement of this moiety of the manor was made by Ellis de Lever in favour of his son Adam and his issue by Agnes his wife; *Final Conc.* ii, 78. It will be seen that the Radcliffes considered this branch of the family responsible for the whole rent of 8s. due from Little Lever, though the Darcy Lever half had been granted away. Adam son of Ellis de Lever was witness to a Farnworth charter in 1356; *Lever Chartul.* no. 97. He occurs in a Pilkington plea in 1358; *Assize* R. 438, m. 6 d. Some of the family seem to have settled in the township named; *Pal. of Lanc. Plea* R. 6, m. 27; R. 7, m. 16, 56; R. 8, m. 126.

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and foresters—8s. in all¹³; that in 1473 John Lever held half the manor by the twentieth part of a knight's fee, a rent of 3s. 4d. and 2d. sake fee, rendering puture and other services, while Sir Richard Tempest held the other moiety similarly¹⁴—these moieties being respectively Little Lever and (the later) Darcy Lever;^{14a} and that in the 16th and 17th centuries the manor is



LEVER of Lever. Argent two bendlets sable, the lower one engrailed.

¹³ *Mamecestre* (Chet. Soc.), ii, 289, 290. William de Radcliffe paid 4d. sake fee for the lands held by Ellis de Lever. It would appear, therefore, that this family secured the guardianship of the heir in spite of the adverse verdict above recorded. The 4d. is probably included in the 7s. rent due at the four terms. The 12d. was in lieu of the hawk.

¹⁴ *Ibid.* iii, 478. As to Little Lever proper there appears in 1477 a claim for dower by Elizabeth widow of James Lever against Robert Pilkington, guardian of the land and heir of Robert Lever; she recovered seisin; *Pal. of Lanc. Plea R.* 46, m. 2 d.

^{14a} Nothing appears to be on record as to the latter manor, or moiety of the manor, from 1310 to 1448, when Henry Lever the elder, Giles, and Henry the younger, a son of Giles, held it on a lease for lives of Alice, widow of Sir Robert Tempest. It appears that Henry the elder was a younger brother of William Lever of Great Lever, and that Giles was his son; and that a rent of 25s. a year was due from Great Lever to the manor of Little Lever—probably for some easement, Darcy Lever being opposite to Great Lever, the Croal dividing them; *Lever Chartul.* no. 176, 177. Henry Lever the younger had a son Giles, serving at Berwick in 1505 (*ibid.* no. 220); and Giles had a son and heir Adam and another son William, living in 1524; *ibid.* no. 214, 215. To the same family apparently belonged Andrew Lever and Adam his son, living in 1593 and 1599; *ibid.* no. 216, 218.

There is nothing to show how the Tempests became possessed of this manor, which, as shown in the text, was held by Sir Richard Tempest in 1473; it was probably Dame Alice Tempest's inheritance. She was the daughter of John Lacy of Gateforth, and married Sir Robert Tempest in 1407. Sir Richard Tempest of Staniforth in Ribblesdale was their son; he is described as a knight in 1432, and died in or before May 1488. This information is due to Mrs. Tempest of Broughton Hall. Dowsabel, the daughter and heir of Sir Richard Tempest, married Sir Thomas D'Arcy, created Baron D'Arcy in 1509. Lord D'Arcy opposed the destruction of the religious houses by Henry VIII, and taking part in the Pilgrimage of Grace was attainted and beheaded in 1538; Whitaker, *Craven* (ed. Morant), 71. It is about his time that the name Darcy Lever first appears, to distinguish this part of Little Lever. In 1530 it appears that Lever had descended to Sir George D'Arcy, eldest son of Lord D'Arcy, as part of his mother's lands, and that he had given it to his younger brother, Sir Arthur, in exchange for Gateforth; *L. and P. Hen. VIII*, xii (2), 70, 71.

¹⁵ The following are among the inquisitions, &c., of the period referred to:—

Richard Lever died 19 March 1587–8, seised of the manor of Little Lever, and eighteen messuages in the township, held of John Lacy as of his manor of Manchester in socage by a rent of 4s. yearly. He also held two burgages in Bolton. Richard, his son and heir, was forty-six years of age; *Duchy of Lanc. Inq.* p.m. xv, no. 41.

There is a memorial brass at Forcett of Anne Underhill, daughter of Richard Lever; *Yorks. Arch. Journ.* xvii, 276.

Thurstan Tyldesley was in 1557 in possession of the manor of (Darcy) Lever, together with other manors and lands; *Pal. of Lanc. Feet of F. bdl.* 17, m. 18. Five years later the Darcy Lever estate was entrusted or mortgaged to Richard Chisnall and Thurstan Barton; *ibid.* bdl. 24, m. 14. A similar grant or sale was made by Thurstan Tyldesley and others in 1566 to Oliver Chisnall and Thomas Lassell. The manors of Darcy Lever, Lever, and Great Lever are named; also messuages, dovecote, two fulling-mills, gardens, and rent in the Levers, Bolton, and Rivington; *ibid.* bdl. 28, m. 246.

Richard Chisnall, who died 3 May 1587, held half the manor of Little Lever and various messuages and lands in Little and Great Lever, as well as lands in Bolton, Hindley, Rivington, Lostock, Lancaster, Heath Charnock, Preston, and Furness; also Chisnall's buildings in Holborn, near Gray's Inn. Little Lever, by which Darcy Lever seems meant, was held of the lord of Manchester in socage by a rent of 18d. yearly. The heir was John Chisnall, son of Thomas the brother of Richard; he was thirty-six years of age; *Duchy of Lanc. Inq.* p.m. xiv, no. 39.

Edward Chisnall or Chisenhale died in 1635, having a rent of £5 15s. from half the manor of Little Lever *alias* Darcy Lever; *ibid.* xxviii, no. 8. For the family see the account of Coppull.

The Bradshaws of Darcy Lever recorded a pedigree in 1665, from which it appears that John Bradshaw, who died in 1662, married a daughter of Robert Lever, also of Darcy Lever; Dugdale, *Visit.* (Chet. Soc.), 51. It has not been ascertained how this family acquired their estate in the township, in which they continue to be large proprietors, the modern Darcy Lever Hall being their property. Some documents relating to them will be found in *Pal. Note Bk.* iv, 17; *Local Gleanings Lancs. and Ches.* i, 111.

¹⁶ *Visit.* of 1567 (Chet. Soc.), 9.

¹⁷ *Visit.* of 1613 (Chet. Soc.), 33. The succession is given thus: Robert—s. John

found to be divided between two Lever families—the Chisnalls—Bradshaws, and others.¹⁸ It is not possible to trace the subdivisions further.

The estate of the Levers of Little Lever passed to the family of Andrews of Rivington. This branch of the Levers recorded pedigrees in 1567¹⁶ and 1613¹⁷; while Andrews of Little Lever did likewise in 1665.¹⁸ Of this stock came Thomas Lever, one of the most upright and advanced of the Protestant Reformers of the 16th century; he was master of St. John's College in 1551, went into exile in Switzerland in the reign of Mary, and returning in 1558 was made master of Sherburn Hospital in Durham.¹⁹ Darcy

—s. Richard—s. Richard—s. Thomas (living)—s. John, aged 18, and five other sons and nine daughters.

In 1613 was a settlement of the manor of Little Lever and lands in Little Lever and Darcy Lever; *Pal. of Lanc. Feet of F. bdl.* 83, no. 52. In 1624 Thomas and Nicholas Andrews purchased the manor from Thomas Lever, Thomasine his wife, and John, Richard, Robert, Ralph, and James, the sons of Thomas; *ibid.* bdl. 103, m. 5. For disputes as to the sale see *Duchy of Lanc. Plead. Hil.* 1 Chas. I, bdl. 305.

¹⁸ Dugdale, *Visit.* (Chet. Soc.), 8. Nicholas Andrews married Heath, a daughter of Thomas Lever. He died 26 Aug. 1626, holding a third part of the manor of Little Lever, and various lands there, of the lord of Manchester, at the third part of 4s. rent. John, the son and heir, was ten years old—he is called forty-five in 1665—and the trustees held two-fifths of the estate for the use of Thomas, brother of Nicholas; Towneley MS. C.8, 13 (Chet. Lib.), fol. 9/10. John Andrews was 'accounted well of for religion'; O. Heywood, *Diaries*, ii, 141. There is nothing to show what became of the other two-thirds of the manor, but John Lever, the heir of Thomas, is stated to have sold Little Lever o his nephew John Andrews in 1640; Piccoppe MS. Pedigrees (Chet. Lib.), ii, 148.

In 1701 a later John Lever claimed the manor, suing all purchasers of tenements in Little Lever except Mr. Andrews, who had agreed with him; O. Heywood, *Diaries*, iv, 176.

¹⁹ See *Dict. Nat. Biog.*: Cooper, *Athen. Cantab.* ii, 366, 565; Baker, *Hist. St. John's College* (ed. Mayor), i, 130. Thomas son of John Lever became fellow of the college in 1543; *ibid.* i, 284; M.A. 1545. He was ordained or re-ordained by Ridley in 1550–1; he had been a college preacher in 1548. Though he retained the Hospital of Sherburn till his death in 1577, he was deprived of his prebend in Durham in 1567, refusing even the small amount of conformity in the matter of vestments required by Queen Elizabeth. Among his good actions the preservation of Sedburgh Grammar School from the rapacity of the courtiers of Edward VI deserves a record.

His brother Ralph was made fellow of St. John's College in 1549 by the royal visitors of the university; D.D. 1578. He also was an exile in Mary's reign, and an extreme Calvinist, but conformed sufficiently to retain his ecclesiastical preferments in the time of Elizabeth. He was archdeacon of Northumberland, Canon of Durham, in 1575 rector of Stanhope, and in 1577 succeeded his brother as master of Sherburn. See *Dict. Nat. Biog.*; Cooper, *Athen. Cantab.* ii, 506.



DARCY LEVER HALL

Lever Hall was the seat of another family of the local surname;²⁰ one member of it was the founder or refounder of Bolton Grammar School.²¹

DARCY LEVER OLD HALL stands 2 miles south-east of Bolton on high ground sloping down to the Blackshaw Brook, which flows past the house on the south side, not far from its junction with the River Tonge.

The principal front of the house, which is of timber and plaster on a red sandstone base, faces north, and has three timber gables, and a wing projecting northwards 23 ft. with a former timber gable rebuilt in brick.

On a beam over the porch is inscribed **R^LE 1641** for Robert and Elizabeth Lever, and on the stone head of the inner door the date is repeated. The plan of the house seems to be a late development of the H-plan, and may very well belong to this date. The screen passage is still represented, but the hall has become quite insignificant, and its porch, as at Kenyon Peel, has been amalgamated with the west wing. The principal room on the ground floor is the parlour, entered through a lobby on the west of the screens.

The building, which is in a rather dilapidated condition, is now used as a farmhouse, and has been very much altered and modernized inside, though the exterior retains much of its original picturesqueness. It is of two stories with attics in the gables, and the roofs are covered with grey stone slates. The north front has been little altered except by the addition of lean-to buildings in the recessed portions, but the gables have lost their bargeboards, the attic windows are built up, and the timber-work generally is in a more or less decayed state.

The timber construction, which remains intact on the north side, is continued round the east side, but the south front has been entirely rebuilt in brick and is without interest, the roof, which is hipped at the east end, being in one unbroken length with overhanging eaves. The total length of the building is about 78 ft., but at the west end a new brick built house has been erected with which one of the lower rooms of Darcy Lever Old Hall on the south side has been incorporated, the two houses thus overlapping.

The half-timber work of the north front is of simple construction, the gables being filled in with diagonal pieces, with a plaster cove running round at the level of the wall plates. The timber work is quite plain except in the middle gable, which has quatrefoil

fillings and a cove at the level of the first floor. Some of the windows retain their diamond quarries.

The entrance is through an open porch under the middle gable, opening into a through passage with a doorway at the end on the south side. Both doors are the original ones of oak, nail studded, and with good iron hinges and fittings. To the right of the passage is a lobby leading to the parlour, a large room 23 ft. long by 16 ft. wide, with an angle-nook on its east side 14 ft. 9 in. wide and 4 ft. 6 in. deep., and to the left is a room at the back, now used as a larder. A smaller room at the front is now only reached from the east wing, the two lower rooms of which are used as workshops or lumber rooms, with separate outer doorways.

The staircase is to the west of the porch, built between walls and radiating from a central post. The treads are of oak, but there is no ornamental detail. There is an opening under the stairs giving direct access to the kitchen from the open air, but this is a later insertion. The interior, which shows the timber construction throughout, has little architectural interest, there being no panelling, and all the original furniture and fittings, with the exception of a long 17th-century table in the parlour, have disappeared. In one of the bedrooms is a good stone fireplace, now whitewashed, with moulded jambs and a shaped head, and the ceilings of the parlour and the bedroom over are crossed by moulded beams.

The north wing, the roof of which is a little lower than that of the main building, consists of kitchen and washhouse, and breaks up the elevation on the north side in rather a pleasing fashion, apparently reducing the length of the building by forming a kind of courtyard. This wing appears to be of about the same date as the rest of the house, though it has been largely rebuilt in stone and brick. On a line with its east face is a portion of the 17th-century stone fence wall running northward with weathered coping and remains of a ball ornament.

HACKING, or Hacken, was another estate in the township. It was held by the Byroms of Salford.²² Under this family it was occupied on lease by Richard Crompton and his descendants, who seem to have acquired the freehold.^{22a} It descended to James Crompton of Hacking, who died in 1727, and was sold by his heirs in 1735 to the Peploes, and was again sold at the beginning of last century by

²⁰ The descent of this family is unknown. In 1601 it was found that Lawrence Fogg and Robert Lever had purchased lands in Darcy Lever of Mr. Chisnall, for which they were summoned to do their suit and service at the next leet court at Manchester; *Ct. Leet Rec.* ii, 174.

Robert Lever died in 1620, holding among other properties a messuage and lands in Little Lever *alias* Darcy Lever of Edward Mosley as of his manor of Manchester in socage by 18d. rent. James, his son and next heir, was over fifty years of age; *Lancs. Inq. p.m.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), ii, 255-7. The rent is the same as that formerly paid by the Chisnalls.

James Lever died 24 Mar. 1634-5, holding messuages and lands in Darcy Lever and Bolton; the tenure is not stated. Robert, his son and heir, was twenty-six years of age; *Duchy of Lanc. Inq. p.m.* xxvii, no. 61. Robert Lever was one of the 'esquires' in the Bury Pres-

byterian Classis at its formation in 1646. By his first wife he had a daughter Jane, who married John Andrews, the son of Nicholas Andrews of Little Lever. The Andrews family thus secured portions of both Little Lever and Darcy Lever.

²¹ Robert Lever, the founder, was a younger son of the Robert who died in 1620. He had the manor of Rivington from his father.

²² Adam Byrom of Salford died in 1559 holding eight messuages, a moiety of two fulling-mills, &c., in Little Lever; of the executors of the will of Lord La Warre, in socage, by a rent of 18d.; his grandson Ralph, aged three years, was his heir; *Duchy of Lanc. Inq. p.m.* xi, no. 65.

Ralph Byrom, son of the last-named Ralph, died in 1599 without issue, his brother Adam, fourteen years of age, being his heir. He held twelve messuages, half a water-mill and fulling-mill in Little Lever or Darcy Lever of the lord of Manchester; *ibid.* xvii, no. 39.

^{22a} From a pleading of 1602 it appears that Ralph Byrom, lord of Hacking, had demised it to Richard Crompton, and then to Richard's younger son James; on James's death his son Richard took possession, but his right was denied by his uncle John, elder brother of James, a clothworker of London, on the ground that by the custom of the manor the eldest son had a preference; *Duchy of Lanc. Plead. Eliz. ccii, C17.*

Ellis Crompton, who died 23 May 1632, held messuages in Little Lever *alias* Darcy Lever of Edward Mosley, as of his manor of Manchester in socage by a rent of 6d.; also messuages, &c., in Bolton. The heir was his grandson John Crompton, son of John son of Ellis, then fifteen years of age; *Duchy of Lanc. Inq. p.m.* xxviii, no. 68, 69.

In 1581 there was a fine respecting messuages and lands in Darcy Lever and Bolton, Lawrence Fogg and Thomas Heyton being plaintiffs, and Ralph Byrom

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BYROM of Salford.
Argent a chevron between three hedgehogs sable, a crescent on the chevron for difference.



CROMPTON of Hacking.
Gules a fesse wavy between three lions rampant or.

Mrs. Peploe Birch to the Earl of Bradford, and has descended with Great Lever.²⁵

Richard Heywood had a small estate in Little Lever in the early part of the 17th century;²⁶ two of his sons—Oliver and Nathaniel—distinguished themselves as preachers and as leaders of the Nonconformists after 1662.²⁵

The land-tax return of 1786 shows that James Bradshaw and John Peploe Birch were the chief proprietors of Darcy Lever, paying between them nearly half the tax. In 1797 Robert Andrews paid more than a third of the tax for Little Lever, John Fletcher and Benjamin Rawson being among the smaller contributors.²⁶

In connexion with the Church of England, St. Matthew's, Little Lever, was built in 1791 and rebuilt in 1865.²⁷ There are a mission church of St. Mary at Nob End, and a mission room.

The Wesleyan Methodists have chapels at Little Lever and Darcy Lever, and the Congregationalists have one at the former place.²⁸

BRIGHTMET

Brihtmede, 1257; Brightmete, 1277; Bregmete, Breghtmed, 1292; Brithmete, 1302; Brightmede, 1510; Brightmet, 1574.

and James Bradshaw deforciant; Pal. of Lanc. Feet of F. bde. 43, m. 102.

Lawrence Fogg died about the beginning of 1605; his son Richard, as heir, was summoned to Manchester to do suit and service for his lands in Darcy Lever; *Court Leet Rec.* ii, 208. Richard Fogg in 1612 purchased lands in Darcy Lever of Adam Byrom; *ibid.* ii, 269. He died 11 Sept. 1630, holding twenty messuages, a water-mill, the moiety of two fulling mills, with lands, &c., in Little Lever *alias* Darcy Lever, of the lord of Manchester; also burgages, &c., in Bolton. Lawrence, his son and heir, was twenty-four years of age; Towneley MS. C. 8, 13 (Chet. Lib.), fol. 428. The description corresponds with that of the Byrom estate above recorded. The Fogg family produced some prominent ecclesiastics in the 17th century, including the curate of Liverpool ejected in 1662, and a dean of Chester.

²⁵ See the preceding note and the account of the Crompton family in Ormerod, *Parentalia*, 30-6. The following is from the Chester Consistory Court Records, under Bolton, 1665: 'There was an unlawful [Nonconformist] meeting at the house of Ralph Lever of Little Lever, 13 Sept. 1665, where were present Cicelly the wife of John Crompton of the Hacking in Darcy Lever, John and James his sons, &c.'

²⁶ He issued a token in 1652; *Lancs. and Ches. Antiq. Soc.* v, 80.

²⁵ Nathaniel Heywood was vicar of Ormskirk, and ejected in 1662. Oliver Heywood, B.A., of Trinity College, Cambridge, was ejected from Coley Chapel in Halifax, but continued his ministrations as far as possible in Yorkshire and Lancashire in spite of excommunication, fine, and imprisonment. In 1688 he built North Owrarn chapel and laboured there till his death in 1702. He published numerous works, and his *Diaries*, four volumes, edited by J. Horsfall Turner, were printed in 1882-5. He several times visited Bolton and the neighbourhood and preached at Little Lever in 1666, &c. He purchased land there in 1671; *Diaries*, i, 278.

²⁶ Land tax returns at Preston. Benjamin Rawson, who had chemical works, appears to have succeeded the Rev. Mr. Whitehead, whose name occurs in the return of 1788.

²⁷ A district was assigned to it in 1866; *Lond. Gaz.* 11 May.

²⁸ The services began in 1848, and the present chapel was built in 1850; it has been enlarged since. There was a temporary secession of part of the congregation from 1882 to 1885; Nightingale, *Lancs. Nonconf.* iii, 149-53.

¹ Edited by B. T. Barton, 1881 and 1882. The census for Brightmet in 1801 is printed at ii, 118-21; Extracts from the township minute book at i, 58-60.

² *Dict. Nat. Biog.*

The township of Brightmet lies between Bradshaw and Blackshaw Brooks, and has an area of 872½ acres. The highest point, Brightmet Hill, a little over 525 ft., is near the centre of the northern boundary, and from it the surface slopes away in all directions, chiefly to the south. The township ceased to have an independent existence in 1898, being included in the borough and township of Bolton by the Extension Act of that year. The population was in 1901 reckoned with that of Tonge.

Numerous roads cross the area, but the chief road is that from Bolton eastward to Bury; and next is the more northerly road called Red Lane, between the same places, having Thicketford Bridge at the west and Red Bridge at the east. Running from the one to the other is that called Church Street and Withins Lane.

In the southern part of the township are Oakenbottom and Compton Fold; in the centre are Stonelow Cottages.

There are a number of mills and bleach works, also a heald and reed factory. There is a colliery.

A number of miscellaneous notes relating to this township are printed in *Bolton Historical Gleanings*.¹

A native of Brightmet, John Crompton, 1611-69, was one of the Nonconformist divines ejected through the Act of Uniformity in 1662.²

The hearth tax of 1666 found forty-nine hearths liable; Peter Longworth had the largest dwelling, with six hearths.³

The manor of *BRIGHTMET* formed *MANOR* a moiety of the Marsey fee in the parish of Bolton,⁴ and was in the 12th century held as one plough-land by Augustin de Brightmet.⁵ By his wife Edith de Barton he had as his heir a daughter, Cecily, who married William de Notton,⁶ the tenant in 1212.⁷ Some forty years later it was held by Avina de Samlesbury, and divided among her three daughters;⁸ but as Margery the eldest had no

³ Subs. R. Lancs. bde. 250, no. 9.

⁴ *Lancs. Inq. and Extents* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), i, 71.

⁵ Augustin de Brightmet about 1180 gave to his brother Patrick de Moberley a moiety of Moberley with reversion of the rest after his own death; Lord Edmund Talbot's MSS. (Hist. MSS. Com. *Various Coll.* ii, 290).

⁶ See the account of Barton-on-Irwell; also Ormerod, *Ches.* (ed. Helsby), i, 422.

⁷ *Inq. and Extents*, loc. cit.; he paid a rent of 8s. Later, Brightmet was described as the eighth part of a knight's fee.

⁸ In 1257 Avina de Samlesbury acknowledged the right of Robert de Hampton and Margery his wife to a mill and eight oxgangs of land (less 12 acres) in Brightmet, for which they were to pay her ½ mark a year for life; after her death Robert and Margery were to have one-third, and Cecily and Elizabeth, the younger sisters of Margery, were to have the other two-thirds; *Final Conc.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), i, 131, and note on p. 130.

In a charter without date John de Altaripa granted to Cecily daughter of William de Samlesbury and her heirs six oxgangs of land in the territory of Bolton and a culture called 'Hallerode wra.' One of the oxgangs was held in demesne, and the rest by Edmund Brun (2), Mabel (2), and Hervey (1); Kuerden MSS. v, fol. 117 (2).

issue, the other two ultimately had each a moiety of the manor.⁹

Of these Cecily married Sir John D'Ewias, and her moiety descended to the Southworths of Samlesbury, who retained it till the beginning of the 16th century.¹⁰ In 1510 it was in the possession of the Gerards of Aughton,¹¹ then of the Ainsworths,¹² from whom, in the 17th century, it passed to a branch of the Banastre family.¹³ In 1725 Brightmet Hall and estate were purchased from the Baguley family by John Parker,¹⁴

high sheriff of the county in 1732,¹⁵ in whose family it remained for over a century.¹⁶ No manor seems now to be claimed in respect of this part.

The other daughter, Elizabeth, married Sir Robert de Holland,¹⁷ and her moiety of the manor descended in the male line of this family¹⁸ until 1461, when it became forfeit together with the other possessions of Henry Holland, Duke of Exeter.¹⁹ In 1484 it was granted by Richard III to Thomas, Lord Stanley, and his son Lord Strange,²⁰ and this

⁹ In 1292 John D'Ewias and Cecily his wife complained that Robert de Holland and Elizabeth his wife would not agree to make a division of two parts of the manor of Brightmet, the inheritance of Avina de Samlesbury, mother of Cecily and Elizabeth; 40s. damages was awarded; Assize R. 408, m. 3 d.; De Banco R. 92, m. 11.

Robert de Holland and John D'Ewias in 1302 jointly contributed to the aid, in respect of the eighth part of a knight's fee held by them in Brightmet of the Earl of Lancaster; *Lancs. Inq. and Extents*, i, 314.

Nicholas D'Ewias held the moiety of the hamlet of Brightmet in 1324 by the service of the sixteenth part of a knight's fee, 4s. for castle ward, and 1s. 3d. for sake fee; and Robert de Holland held the other moiety by the like service; Dods. MSS. cxxxi, fol. 37b. It is noticeable that Brightmet is called a 'moiety of the vill of Bolton,' showing that the former Marsey holding in Bolton parish was regarded as a unit.

Again in 1346 Maud de Holland and Gilbert de Southworth held a plough-land by the eighth part of a knight's fee, rendering 8s. and pature, as well as 2s. 6d. sake-fee; Add. MS. 32103, fol. 146.

John de Holland and Richard de Southworth held the manor in 1445-6 for the eighth part of a fee; the relief due was 12s. 6d., payable by each equally; Duchy of Lanc. Knights' Fees, 2/20.

In a later Feodary (1483) it is stated that Christopher Southworth held one moiety of the manor, and that the Duke of Exeter lately held the other; Duchy of Lanc. Misc. Bks. cxxx.

¹⁰ See the preceding note. Richard Southworth, who died in 1472, and his son Christopher, who died in 1487, held messuages and land in Brightmet of the king as of his Duchy of Lancaster by the eighth part of a knight's fee, a rent of 8s. and 2s. for sake-fee; the clear annual value was 100s.; Duchy of Lanc. Inq. p.m. iii, no. 103, 41. John Southworth, the son and heir of Christopher, a few years after coming of age, sold or mortgaged the manors of Brightmet and Harwood in 1506 to Sir John Cutt, Miles Gerard, James Molyneux, Peter Gerard, and William Standish; *Final Conc.* iii, 161; see also a writ of 1511; Pal. of Lanc. Writs Proton. file 2 Hen. VIII. They are not found later among the Southworth manors.

¹¹ Miles Gerard, Elizabeth his wife, and Peter Gerard, clerk, were deforciant in a fine of the manors of Brightmet and Harwood; Pal. of Lanc. Feet of F. bde. 11, m. 247. The manors were probably sold, as they do not appear later among the Gerard estates. From the Hulton inquisition quoted below it seems that in 1557 Sir Edmund Trafford and

Giles Ainsworth were lords of the manor, or of this portion of it.

¹² Joan widow of Thomas Ainsworth of Brightmet is named in 1542; *Duchy Plead.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), ii, 177. Thomas Ainsworth of Ainsworth held fourteen messuages, a water-mill, &c., in Brightmet and Harwood of the queen as of her manor of East Greenwich in socage; he died in 1594 leaving his brother Peter's son Robert his heir; Duchy of Lanc. Inq. p.m. xvi, no. 8. The estate is not called a manor.

Giles Ainsworth is found in 1576 claiming lands in Brightmet and Harwood against Thomas Ainsworth and others; *Ducatus Lanc.* (Rec. Com.), iii, 38. By a fine of 1588 Ralph Booth appears to have acquired the estate of Thomas Ainsworth; Pal. of Lanc. Feet of F. bde. 50, m. 29. In 1597 the Earl of Derby sold to Ralph Booth of Ainsworth and William Bromeley the elder of Brightmet, in consideration of £20 paid by Giles Ainsworth of Ainsworth, a tenement in Brightmet formerly occupied by Abraham and Margaret Crompton and then by the said Margaret Crompton and Giles Ainsworth; Hulme D. no. 107.

The Ainsworth estate was in 1609 'put into the Crown to prevent a remainder, and granted out again to Thomas Twisden and others'; Pat. 7 Jas. I, pt. xxvi.

A decree was made in 1563 in a suit between Ainsworth and Isherwood respecting lands in Brightmet and Harwood; *Lancs. and Ches. Rec.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), ii, 252.

From the later history it may be inferred that Giles Ainsworth left two daughters as co-heirs—Katherine, who married Richard Banastre, and Jane, who married Richard Meadowcroft.

¹³ In 1623 there was a fine of the manors of Brightmet and Harwood, the deforciant being Richard Banastre and Katherine his wife, Richard Meadowcroft and Joan his wife; Pal. of Lanc. Feet of F. bde. 100, no. 10. From the Visitation of 1664-5 it appears that Richard Banastre of Bolton was a younger son of William Banastre of Bank, Christopher being another son; the name of Richard's wife is not given, but he had three sons—Henry, William, and Alexander; Dugdale's *Visit.* (Chet. Soc.), 23. Richard Meadowcroft, who died about 1660, married Jane, a daughter and co-heir of Giles Ainsworth; *ibid.* 196. From this the parentage of Richard Banastre's wife may be inferred. In 1632 the whole estate appears to have come into the possession of Richard and Katherine Banastre; Pal. of Lanc. Feet of F. bde. 119, no. 37. By a further fine three years later Christopher Banastre acquired, perhaps as trustee, a moiety of the manors of Brightmet and Harwood

from Richard and Henry Banastre; *ibid.* bde. 125, no. 24.

William Hulme, father of the benefactor, married Christine daughter of Richard Banastre of Oakenbottom; Earwaker in *Manch. Ct. Leet Rec.* iii, 265.

¹⁴ *Bolton Hist. Gleanings*, ii, 325. In his will, William Hulme the son mentioned Richard Baguley his brother, Christopher and Alexander Baguley his uncles, and William Baguley his cousin; *Notitia Cestr.* (Chet. Soc.), ii, 72.

Alexander Baguley and Katherine his wife are mentioned in 1655; she may have been the widow of Richard Banastre; Pal. of Lanc. Feet of F. bde. 157, m. 50. William Baguley of Kearsley in 1698 leased an acre in Brightmet to William Hilton of the latter township; Hulme D. no. 115.

William Baguley by his will dated 1725 left £200 towards founding and endowing a charity school in Brightmet, which was afterwards built on the site of an ancient messuage at Roscow Fold, granted by William Hulton; *End. Chbr. Rep. for Bolton Boro.* 1904, p. 23.

¹⁵ P.R.O. List, 74. There are pedigrees of the Parker of Astle family in Ormerod, *Ches.* (ed. Helsby), iii, 714, and Earwaker, *East Ches.* ii, 363. From these it appears that John Parker married Alice daughter of Thomas Smith of Brightmet, and died in 1778; his son, the Rev. John Parker, died in 1795, leaving a son and heir Thomas, who died in 1840 without issue, his heirs being his five sisters or their representatives. See also *Bolton Hist. Gleanings*, i, 176, 274; *Local Gleanings Lancs. and Ches.* i, 251.

¹⁶ John Parker in 1779 paid a duchy rent of 2s. 7d.; Duchy of Lanc. Rentals, 14/25 m. The land of the Rev. John Parker contributed nearly a third of the land tax of 1789 (returns at Preston), the rest of the township being apparently much divided.

¹⁷ See preceding notes.

¹⁸ A moiety of the manor of Brightmet was included in 1322 in a settlement of various manors of Robert de Holland and Maud his wife entailed on the heirs male; *Final Conc.* ii, 193. It was also among the possessions of Maud widow of Sir Robert de Holland in 1349, and of her son Sir Robert de Holland, Lord Holland, who died in 1373, being at the latter date held of the Duke of Lancaster by a rent of 2s. only; Inq. p.m. 23 Edw. III (1st nos.), no. 58; 47 Edw. III (1st nos.), no. 19. A similar return was made in 1451 after the death of Sir John Holland, except that the service was stated as 5s.; *Lancs. Rec. Inq. p.m.* no. 45, 46.

¹⁹ See *Lancs. Inq. p.m.* (Chet. Soc.), ii, 3.

²⁰ *Cal. Pat.* 1476-85, p. 476. See also *Lancs. and Ches. Rec.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), ii, 330.

A HISTORY OF LANCASHIRE

moiety of the manor has descended to the present Earl of Derby.²¹

The building known as the Old Manor House stands at the junction of Meadow Lane with Brightmet Fold Lane, a short distance north of the main road from Bolton to Bury, with its principal front facing south. The building is now divided into several tenements, and has been rebuilt at the east end in brick; but the older part, now in a rather dilapidated condition, is of stone, with long, low mullioned windows and stone-slatted roofs. Part of the building is of three stories, with an abutting lower wing on the west side having a gabled bay-window in the principal front. At the back some original timber-framing remains, but the building has suffered so much from decay and has been so much patched with brickwork that it has lost most of its interest. The interior is said to have retained a shield with the date 1516 and some initials until 1908, but this has disappeared.^{21a} The building, however, has the appearance of belonging to the 17th century, though the earlier date may be that of a timber house to which a stone front was afterwards added. Some rebuilding was done in the 18th century, a stone on the north side high up in the wall bearing the inscription, 'James Crompton, Ann Crompton, the 9th of May, 1713.' Below is a door with a good wooden semi-domed hood.

Few other families appear in the records as holding lands in the township,²² but the Hultons of Farnworth²³ are named.

The Manchester chantries had lands in Brightmet.²⁴

In connexion with the Church of England, St. James's was built in 1855; the patronage is exercised alternately by the Crown and the Bishop of Manchester.²⁵

The other places of worship are a Wesleyan chapel, built in 1848, and a Free Church. Oliver Heywood

preached in Brightmet in 1666, and later at the house of his relatives, the Cromptons, but no permanent congregation seems to have resulted.²⁶

HARWOOD

Harewode, 1212, 1302.

The surface in this township has a general slope to the south-west, from over 800 ft. at the north-east corner to less than 300 ft. at the border of Brightmet and Tonge. Bowstone Hill, 825 ft., is at the junction of this township and Bradshaw in Bolton parish, and Elton and Tottington in Bury. The area is 1,239½ acres. The township as such ceased to exist in 1898, being incorporated with Turton,¹ and thus the population was in 1901 numbered with that of Turton.

The principal road is that south-east through the centre from Bradshaw to Ainsworth, passing through Harwood Lee; another road goes north-east to Tottington; the village or hamlet of Harwood lies on the southern boundary.

The land is chiefly in pasture. There are stone quarries and bleach works.

A library, reading-room, &c., were erected in 1872 from a gift by David Walsh, a miller of Harwood.

There were forty-two hearths liable to the tax in 1666, but only one house had as many as three hearths.^{1a}

The manor of *HARWOOD*, originally *MANORS* including Bradshaw also, was a member of the fee of Manchester, held as one plough-land by knight's service. In 1212 it had become divided, being held of Robert Grelley by Roger de Samlesbury and Alexander de Harwood.² The Samlesbury portion seems to have descended in the same way as the neighbouring manor of Brightmet,³ and the Harwood moiety to the Traffords of

²¹ Lands in Brightmet were held by Thomas, Earl of Derby, at his death in 1521, but no particular record of them is given in the inquisition; *Duchy of Lancs. Inq. p.m. v.* no. 68. The account of Alexander Lever, the bailiff for Brightmet, Harwood, and Darwen in 1523-4, shows that John Hulton of Farnworth, a free tenant, paid 1s. rent for his holding in Brightmet; the tenants at will paid £4 10s. 5d. in all. No courts were held in the year; roll in possession of Lord Lathom.

The manor is mentioned again in 1597 as in the possession of the Earl of Derby; *Pal. of Lanc. Feet of F. bdle.* 58, m. 291. For a subsequent dispute on the matter see *Duchy of Lanc. Plead. Eliz. ccii.* D. 10.

It formed part of the dower of Charlotte, Countess of Derby, for which she compounded with the Parliamentary Commissioners in 1653; the 'old repts' were £6 7s. 8d.; *Royalist Comp. Papers* (*Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.*), ii, 185.

^{21a} *Bolton Journ. and Guard.* Oct. 2, 1908. The house is said to have been raided 'during the last few months,' when apparently the dated panel was destroyed or stolen.

²² Roger son of Adam de Sharples in 1292 claimed a messuage and lands in Brightmet against Adam de Pilkington, but the jury decided that the tenements were in Bolton; *Assize R.* 408, m. 1.

This was probably merely a technical defence.

²³ John Hulton in 1487 held a messuage, 60 acres of land, 4 acres of meadow, 20 acres of wood, and 100 acres of pasture and turbary in Brightmet of Thomas Stanley and John Southworth, by the yearly rent of 2s.; *Duchy of Lanc. Inq. p.m. iii.* no. 26. In 1557 it was stated that William Hulton had held of Sir Edmund Trafford and Giles Ainsworth; *ibid.* x, no. 32. Two fines are on record—in 1574 and 1591; from the latter it seems that the Hultons' estate was then sold to Katherine and Jane Ainsworth; *Pal. of Lanc. Feet of F. bdle.* 36, m. 115; 53, m. 217.

²⁴ There was in 1549 a dispute concerning them between Alice Roscoe and Ralph Roscoe and his wife Ellen; *Ducatus Lanc. (Rec. Com.)*, i, 244. They are not mentioned in Raines, *Lancs. Chant.*

²⁵ The district is officially known as Tonge-cum-Brightmet.

²⁶ O. Heywood, *Diaries*, i, 224, 241, &c. There are many references to people of the township in these diaries.

¹ By the Bolton, Turton, &c. Extension Act, 1898.

^{1a} *Subs. R. Lancs. bdle.* 250, no. 9.

² *Lancs. Inq. and Extents* (*Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.*), i, 54. It was part of a composite fee which Richard de Lathom held—5½ plough-lands in Childwall, &c., Harwood being the other plough-land.

Hence each of the parceners should have been liable for the thirteenth part of a knight's fee, but in 1302 Harwood was held as the eighth part of a fee.

³ That is, it became divided; one half descended through D'Ewias to Southworth and was sold in the 16th century, afterwards passing through several families; the other half descended to the Hollands, and was forfeited in 1461, afterwards being granted to the Stanleys apparently. These portions of Harwood seem to have been considered by their possessors as merely appendages to Brightmet, though the tenure was quite distinct; thus the Southworths certainly held part of Harwood, but it is not separately named in the inquisitions; part of Brightmet also was granted to Lord Stanley in 1484, without distinct mention of Harwood, though this must have been included.

As to the Southworths' portion, it will be seen in the account of Brightmet that their successors, the Ainsworths and others, spoke of their manors of Brightmet and Harwood. In 1655 Alexander Baguley and Katherine his wife sold the manor of Harwood to William Hulme, founder of the Hulme charities; *Pal. of Lanc. Feet of F. bdle.* 157, m. 50.

As to the other portion, it is on record that Robert de Holland and Elizabeth his wife in 1292 secured the third part of a moiety of the manor of Harwood from William son of Turcok de Blackrod, and

Trafford.⁴ The matter, however, is not quite clear, the separation of the manor of Bradshaw causing some confusion.⁵ The Trafford moiety was sold in 1589 to Nicholas Mosley,⁶ and he in turn sold it to five partners, who appear to have been acting for a number of others, for in 1615 the manor had been divided into thirty-five portions, of which Giles Ainsworth held one.⁷ Large portions came into the possession of William Hulme, and form part of his endowment fund.⁸

A grant of free warren in Harwood was obtained in 1266-7.⁹

Maud his wife; *Final Conc.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), i, 169. It does not appear how the latter pair had obtained this portion. John D'Ewias and Cecily his wife put in their claim.

Robert de Holland and Maud his wife held the sixth part of the manor of Harwood, i.e. the third part of a moiety, in 1322; *ibid.* ii, 193. The sixth part of the manor of Harwood was held of the Baron of Manchester by a rent of 6d. by Sir Robert, Lord Holland, who died in 1373; *Inq. p.m.* 47 Edw. III (1st nos.), no. 19. In 1451 the estate of Sir John Holland is described as 2 oxgangs in the vill of Harwood, held of Sir Reginald West, and worth 33s. 4d.; *Lancs. Rec. Inq. p.m.* no. 45-6. The manor of Harwood is named among the possessions of Thomas, Earl of Derby, in 1521, but the tenure is not stated; *Duchy of Lanc. Inq. p.m.* v, no. 68. It appears from the rental that tenants at will paid 29s. 3½d. a year, and that 4d. of new rent was due from one Peter Greenhalgh, for a house built on the waste, &c., in addition to 12d. paid to Edmund Trafford for the same encroachment; Rental of 1523-4 in possession of Lord Lathom. This looks as if the Earl of Derby then claimed a fourth part of the manor and Edmund Trafford three-fourths.

⁴ In 1227 Alexander de Harwood acknowledged the suit of court claimed by the lord of Manchester; *Final Conc.* i, 47-8. From a fine of 1241 it appears that John de Harwood held the half plough-land of William de Samlesbury, for he called upon his mesne lord to acquit him of the suit at the court of Manchester required by Thomas Grelley; *ibid.* i, 90. If John de Harwood were the heir of Alexander, he would then hold the entire manor, half immediately of the Grelleys, and half of the Samlesburys.

In 1278 Alan de Harwood complained that Richard D'Ewias, Margery his wife, Robert de Holland, and others, had disseised him of half the manor of Harwood. The defence was that Richard had gone to the war in Wales, and that Margery had wrongly made a grant to the plaintiff; he showed, however, that the grant was made by her in her widowhood, after the death of Robert de Hampton her former husband. The service was 30s. a year until 15 marks had been paid, then 1d. a year; *Assize R.* 1217, m. 32b.

This Alan de Harwood may have been the Alan de Bradshaw who held lands in Harwood (or Bradshaw) in the time of Edward I; *De Banco R.* 345, m. 64 d.

Maud widow of John son of Thomas de Harwood in 1283 claimed dower in Harwood and Longworth against Thomas de Harwood; *De Banco R.* 50, m. 4.

Cecily daughter of John de Harwood was a plaintiff respecting a tenement in Harwood in 1292, the defendants being John D'Ewias and Robert de Holland,

but was non-suited; *Assize R.* 408, m. 34 d. This may be an indication that the Harwood family had ended in several daughters and co-heirs. The mode in which the Traffords succeeded is not known. In the same year John son of Adam son of William de Radcliffe claimed a messuage and lands in Harwood against Henry son of Henry de Trafford; but it was found that the defendant derived his title to it from Thomas de Longworth, and not from Adam de Radcliffe; *ibid.* m. 70, 15 d. Henry de Trafford was defendant in another suit; *ibid.* m. 57.

The Traffords held part of the other moiety of the manor, for in 1306 Nicholas son of Sir John D'Ewias made a grant of his land in Harwood to his brothers Roger and William, the service of Henry de Trafford being included; *Dods. MSS.* liii, fol. 19, no. 37.

In the Trafford inquisitions, their tenement is not called a manor, and was stated in 1564 to be held of Lord La Warre, by a rent of 12d. for all services; *Duchy of Lanc. Inq. p.m.* xi, no. 11.

⁶ In 1302 Robert de Holland, John D'Ewias, and Henry de Trafford held of Thomas Grelley the eighth part of a knight's fee in Harwood; *Lancs. Inq. and Extents*, i, 313.

In 1320 the same names are given as those of tenants of the eighth part of a fee in Bradshaw and Harwood, from which two suits were due to the court of Manchester, also 18d. for sake fee, 18d. for castle ward, also 4½d. for the serjeants; *Mamecestre* (Chet. Soc.), ii, 288, 400. A few years later Robert de Holland and Thomas de Southworth were said to hold the plough-land in Harwood; *ibid.* 260.

In 1473 Christopher Southworth and Sir John Trafford each held a moiety of the manor—the Holland holding being ignored—by the sixteenth part of a fee and suit of court, also 4½d. for sake fee and 4½d. for suit of court. It will be noticed that the whole of the knight's service due and half the sake fee and castle ward are accounted for; the remainder of these payments was due from Bradshaw; *ibid.* iii, 479-80.

⁶ *Pal. of Lanc. Feet of F. bdle.* 51, m. 115. Sir Nicholas Mosley in 1601, stating that he had for fourteen years held the manor of Harwood, with waste ground and moor called Harwood Common and Harwood Lee, complained that John Bradshaw and others had entered therein and filled up a coalpit sunk there at plaintiff's great cost, and further that John Bradshaw had sunk a shaft on his own land but also took coals under the plaintiff's land, caused water to flow into plaintiff's pit, and took slate, stone, and turf in Harwood; *Duchy of Lanc. Plead. Eliz. cciv.* M. 4.

⁷ Hulme D. no. 108. The deed recites the sale of the manor or lordship of Harwood and all messuages and lands in Bol-

ton by Sir Edmund Trafford and his son Edmund; and the sale of the same in 1612 for £1,100 by Sir Nicholas Mosley and Sir Edward Mosley to Ralph Higson, Henry Haworth, Edward Greenhalgh, Lawrence Horrocks, and Matthew Harrison; and the purchasers in 1615 for £38 sold to Giles Ainsworth certain messuages and lands in the hands of occupiers named, and a thirty-fifth part of the moors, commons, &c., belonging to the manor. Another part was soon afterwards sold to John son and heir of William Brooke; *ibid.* no. 109. This perhaps afterwards came into the possession of William Hulme, for in 1664 he leased to William Brooke the tenement in Harwood then occupied by the said William Brooke and Margaret his mother, and previously by John Brooke, the father of William; the rent was 13s. 8d. All corn and grain grown there were to be brought to Oakenbottom mill to be ground, or 10s. rent was to be paid to Charles, Earl of Derby; *ibid.* no. 112.

Manchester Church had lands in Harwood in 1528.¹³

Goodwin Fold was once the property and residence of Richard Goodwin, the ejected vicar of Bolton.¹⁴

In 1797 it appears from the land tax returns that the land was held by a number of small proprietors.¹⁵

The commons were inclosed in 1801.¹⁶

ton by Sir Edmund Trafford and his son Edmund; and the sale of the same in 1612 for £1,100 by Sir Nicholas Mosley and Sir Edward Mosley to Ralph Higson, Henry Haworth, Edward Greenhalgh, Lawrence Horrocks, and Matthew Harrison; and the purchasers in 1615 for £38 sold to Giles Ainsworth certain messuages and lands in the hands of occupiers named, and a thirty-fifth part of the moors, commons, &c., belonging to the manor. Another part was soon afterwards sold to John son and heir of William Brooke; *ibid.* no. 109. This perhaps afterwards came into the possession of William Hulme, for in 1664 he leased to William Brooke the tenement in Harwood then occupied by the said William Brooke and Margaret his mother, and previously by John Brooke, the father of William; the rent was 13s. 8d. All corn and grain grown there were to be brought to Oakenbottom mill to be ground, or 10s. rent was to be paid to Charles, Earl of Derby; *ibid.* no. 112.

Edmund Brooke died 2 May 1628 holding a messuage and lands in Harwood of Edward Mosley; George, his son and heir, was of full age; Towneley MS. C, 8, 13 (Chet. Lib.), fol. 70. The Rev. Samuel Brooke of Dorking, 1698, was a benefactor to the poor of Harwood; *End. Char. Rep. for Bolton Parish*, 1904, p. 10. Edward Greenhalgh died 14 Nov. 1624, holding a similar tenement; John, his son and heir, was about thirty years of age; Towneley MS. C, 8, 13, fol. 459.

⁸ In the preceding notes it has been shown that he purchased various parts of the manor: he included his estate in Harwood in those destined for the benefit of 'four of the poor sort of Bachelors of Arts' at Brasenose College, Oxford; *Notitia Cestr.* (Chet. Soc.), ii, 72.

⁹ A charter to Robert de Hampton of free warren in Allonby in Cumberland, Formby, Harwood, &c., in Lancashire; *Dods. MSS.* cxlix, fol. 55; *Cal. Rot. Cart.* (Rec. Com.), 94.

¹⁰ The land was perhaps partly or wholly in Bradshaw; q.v.

¹¹ This was probably in Sharples; q.v.

¹² *Duchy of Lanc. Inq. p.m.* xxv, 33.

¹³ *Ducatus Lanc.* (Rec. Com.), i, 201.

¹⁴ It had been held by John and James Crompton, and was purchased by Richard Goodwin in 1645, together with lands of Joshua Lomax of St. Albans, and John Lomax of Harwood; afterwards it came to James Okey, and in 1790 was the property of James John Heywood, having been bought from Richard Jones and Sophia his wife; *Bolton Journ.* 21 Aug. 1875.

¹⁵ Land Tax Returns at Preston; the estate of Brasenose College (or Hulme's trustees) paid an eighth part of the total.

¹⁶ The inclosure was brought into consideration in 1781; the Act was obtained in 1797 (37 Geo. III), and the award made in 1801; *Bolton Hist. Glean.* i, 357-8.

A HISTORY OF LANCASHIRE

Christ Church was erected in 1840 and the patronage is vested in three trustees.¹⁷ It contains old carved oak fittings which have been brought from various places.

There are Wesleyan and Primitive Methodist chapels.

BRADSHAW

Bradeshagh, 1312, and generally; Bradshaw, 1580.

This township occupies the western slope of a hill which rises from below 400 ft. at Bradshaw Brook on the west to 888 ft. on the eastern boundary, not much more than a mile away. Bradshaw village occupies the southern corner; Horrobin mills, Birches,¹ and Turton Bottoms, are in the north. The area is 1,156 acres. The population was in 1901 enumerated with that of Turton, in which township Bradshaw was included by the Bolton Extension Act of 1898.

Watling Street, an old Roman road, runs along the north-east boundary. It is joined by the road from Bolton, which passes through the village and then north and north-east through the township.

John Bradshaw's house, the Hall, had thirteen hearths liable to the tax in 1666; the other houses were all small, the whole township containing only thirty-eight hearths.²

¹⁷ For endowments see *Lond. Gaz.* 9 July 1867; 16 Nov. 1877; 29 July 1881. It was constituted an independent parish church in 1857. Its erection was due chiefly to the efforts of Robert Lomax, of Lomax Fold, the representative of a family long resident in the township. Joshua Lomax of St. Albans, by his will of 1685, charged his messuage, mill, and lands in Harwood with certain charitable payments.

¹ The Birches was the subject of a suit in 1535 between Alexander Bradshaw and Edmund Bradshaw, and others; *Ducatus Lanc.* (Rec. Com.), i, 149.

² Subs. R. Lancs. bdlc. 250, no. 9.

³ *Lancs. and Ches. Antiq. Soc.* xxii, 148, 149.

⁴ See the account of Harwood.

⁵ Harland, *Mamecestre* (Chet. Soc.), iii, 480. In the 16th century the tenure was socage.

⁶ This family, in spite of its obscurity, is supposed to have been the parent stock of the more famous ones of Bradshagh of Haigh near Wigan and Bradshagh of Westleigh, as well as of others.

⁷ Assize R. 404, m. 2.

⁸ Kuerden, fol. vol.; Harl. MS. 2112, fol. 107. Ughtred is here spelt Huard. Ughtred de Bradshaw had a grant of common of pasture in Harwood from Alexander de Cuerdale; *ibid.* fol. 149b. Brockholes was a part of the composite fee in which was Bradshaw.

⁹ Kuerden fol. MS. It appears from this that Mabel was the daughter of Henry, who must therefore have been the father of Ughtred (Huthred).

Henry de Bradshaw had a charter from Henry Maudgeston [Monewdon], lord of Tottington till 1235, allowing him common of pasture for all cattle fed in Bradshaw; Harl. MS. 2112, fol. 149b. This probably relates to the acre in Affetside, which long descended with Bradshaw.

Several other members of the Bradshaw family occur in deeds, &c., of the latter part of the 13th century. In 1285 Beat-

rice widow of Ughtred de Bradshaw in a claim for dower appeared against Henry son of Robert de Bradshaw respecting a messuage and lands in Bradshaw by Bury; against Alan son of William de Bradshaw respecting a messuage and 2 oxgangs of land there; against Mary widow of William de Bradshaw respecting a messuage and 1 oxgang of land; against Henry son of Matthew de Conway respecting a messuage and land; against William son of Henry del Thorne respecting two messuages, 6 oxgangs of land, &c.; and against Mary de Bradshaw respecting a messuage, oxgang, &c.; De Banco R. 58, m. 7 d. The 10 oxgangs here in evidence cannot be oxgangs of assessment, as the whole of Harwood contained only 1 plough-land.

Alan de Bradshaw is named again; De Banco R. 345, m. 64 d.; he was probably the Alan de Harwood mentioned in the account of that township. Amery widow of Alan de Bradshaw in 1296 claimed dower in Harwood against Roger de Radcliffe; *ibid.* 113, m. 120. Simon de Bradshaw was a plaintiff in 1292; Assize R. 408, m. 5. In the same year a Richard de Bradshaw is mentioned; *Plac. de Quo Warr.* (Rec. Com.), 229, 230, 605. In 1274 the sheriff was ordered to arrest certain persons on a charge of complicity in the death of John de Bradshaw; Coram Rege R. 12, m. 69. John son of Simon de Bradshaw was witness to a charter in 1335; Harl. MS. 2112, fol. 145/181.

¹⁰ *Final Conc.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), ii, 59; it is not clear who the Henry de Bradshaw was by whose agency the settlement was made.

Robert de Bradshaw appears as early as 1292 as plaintiff against Henry de Trafford respecting a tenement in Harwood; Assize R. 408, m. 57. In 1306 Robert de Bradshaw was one of the two free tenants of Harwood [i.e. for Bradshaw], and Nicholas D'Ewias granted his homage and service to his brothers Roger and William D'Ewias; Dods. MSS. liii, fol. 19, no. 37.

The land is chiefly in pasture. There are large bleaching, dyeing, and calico-printing works.

There is a cross on Watling Street,³ and the pedestal of another near the western border.

Originally *BRADSHAW* was included *MANOR* in Harwood, of which it formed the northern moiety;⁴ but a local family established itself there, and in time the manor was considered to be held directly of the lords of Manchester by the fourth part of a knight's fee, and payments of 9d. each for sake fee and castle ward.⁵

No proper account of the family can be given, though it retained its estate from the middle of the 13th century to the end of the 17th.⁶ William and Roger de Bradshaw occur in Turton pleas in 1246.⁷ In 1253 Roger de Brockholes came to an agreement with Ughtred de Bradshaw concerning 4 acres in Bradshaw which Roger had received in free marriage with Mabel the sister of Ughtred, together with right of pasture in Bradeheme.⁸ At a later date William son of Roger de Brockholes released to Robert son of Henry son of Ughtred de Bradshaw all his claim to the said lands.⁹ In 1324 Robert son of Henry de Bradshaw made a settlement of the manor of Bradshaw.¹⁰ There are only fragmentary notices of the family during the two centuries following this.¹¹ An Alexander Bradshaw was head of the family in 1514, when he was succeeded by his son John,¹² and

In 1311 he held of the Earl of Lincoln a pasture in Tottington by homage and the service of 12d. a year; *Mamecestre*, ii, 255.

¹¹ Henry de Bradshaw attested a charter in 1341 and John Bradshaw in 1350; Harl. MS. 2112, fol. 145b/181b, 152/188.

A few notes from charters are printed in the *Visit. of 1613* (Chet. Soc.), 58. From one of these it appears that Robert de Bradshaw had a son Henry, occurring in 1343, and another son Richard, mentioned in 1393-4; a Thomas son of John de Bradshaw was living in 1378-9. Further, Henry de Bradshaw had a son Ellis, also living in 1378-9. The succession therefore was probably, in spite of the long descents, Robert—s. Henry—s. Ellis.

Ellis de Bradshaw appears several times between 1385 and 1395; *Lancs. Inq. p.m.* (Chet. Soc.), i, 13, 61. He is probably the Ellis de Bradshaw who, with Margaret his wife, recovered seisin of lands in Coppull, &c., in 1403; *Dep. Keeper's Rep.* xxxiii, App. 3. John son of Ellis de Bradshaw was in 1395 already married to Eleanor, one of the daughters and heirs of John de Arderne, then seven years of age, to whom his father was one of the guardians; *Lancs. Inq. p.m.* i, 60; ii, 7-9. John de Bradshaw is from time to time mentioned down to 1433; *ibid.* ii, 37; *Pal. of Lanc. Chan. Misc.* 1/9, m. 72. The land in Lower Darwen, afterwards in possession of the family, probably came from his marriage. After forty years another Ellis appears as lord of Bradshaw; *Mamecestre*, iii, 480.

¹² In 1501 Alexander (son and heir-apparent of John) Bradshaw of Bradshaw agreed with Richard Holland of Denton concerning the marriage of Alexander's son and heir John with Ellen daughter of Richard Holland; Harl. MS. 2112, fol. 154/190.

The Tottington court rolls (preserved at Clitheroe Castle and the Record Office) afford another clue, by means of the acre in Affetside. In 1508 Andrew Bradshaw

he by several generations of the same name.¹³ In the 17th century the family was remarkable for its Puritanism in a Puritan district.¹⁴ About this time their fortunes began to decline, and in 1694 the manor was purchased by Henry Bradshaw of Marple in Cheshire, a nephew of the regicide John Bradshaw.¹⁵ It has since descended regularly, by Henry's daughter and heir Mary, who married Nathaniel Isherwood of



BRADSHAW. *Argent two bendlets between as many martlets sable.*



ISHERWOOD. *Argent a fesse dancetty azure, on a chief of the second a lion passant or.*

had died, leaving a brother and heir John, who received possession of the land. The next in succession was Alexander Bradshaw, who died in 1514, and his son John succeeded him. At this point the inquisitions and visitations begin.

¹³ John Bradshaw had a letter from Henry Percy, Earl of Northumberland and Warden of the Marches, desiring his assistance against the Scots; *Visit.* of 1613, p. 58. He died 19 Jan. 1542-3, holding the manor of Bradshaw in Harwood, with sixteen messuages, a fulling mill, a water-mill, &c., together with messuages and lands in Sharples, Bolton, Harwood, and Rivington, the manor and lands in Bradshaw being held of Lord La Warre in socage, by a rent of 9d. yearly and two suits at his court of Manchester; the land in Harwood was held of Edmund Trafford in socage by the rent of a barbed arrow; *Duchy of Lanc. Inq.* p.m. vii, no. 33. The inquisition recites a feoffment for the benefit of his wife Ellen, who survived him; also grants to his surviving brothers Hugh and Robert, made in 1523 and 1532 respectively. John Bradshaw, the son and heir, was over forty years of age. He had special licence of entry; *Dep. Keeper's Rep.* xxxix, App. 551. See also *Ducatus Lanc.* (Rec. Com.), ii, 64.

John Bradshaw the younger died on 10 July 1548, leaving a son and heir only fourteen years of age. His wife was Mary daughter of Ralph Orrell; *Duchy of Lanc. Inq.* p.m. ix, no. 31. By his will he gave all his lands, &c., in Bradshaw and Rivington to Mary his wife for a term of twelve years; they included the hall with its appurtenances, various closes named Mort's Hill, Beysingley, Chapel Fields, Holmes after the Water (formerly Holme Hurststead), Oldham, &c. Provision was made for his younger sons and daughters—Ralph, Robert, Alexander, Richard, Agnes, Ellen, Margaret, Anne, and Elizabeth. To his son and heir John he left 'all such heirlooms as are specified in my father's last will, his best gelding, a great ark standing in the barn, and all his harness. He desired to be buried within Bolton Church, near the accustomed burial-place of his ancestors; *Wills* (Chet. Soc. new ser.), i, 6-10. See also *Ducatus Lanc.* (Rec. Com.), iii, 15, 32.

The heir, the third John Bradshaw in succession, had special licence of entry in

1556; *Dep. Keeper's Rep.* xxxix, App. 551. He died on 14 May 1574, leaving as heir his son John, then twenty-two years of age. The manors and lands were unchanged; *Duchy of Lanc. Inq.* p.m. xiii, no. 39. The day before his death he made provision for his younger son Nicholas and his daughters Anne, Elizabeth, Alice, and Mary; *ibid.* See also *Manch. Ct. Leet Rec.* (ed. Earwaker), i, 168. In 1587 disputes arose over the provision made for the daughter Anne, who married Thomas Holt of Hagley, Bucks.; *Duchy of Lanc. Plead.* cxlii, H, 2; cxv, H, 20.

John Bradshaw, who succeeded, made a settlement of the manor and lands in 1580; *Pal. of Lanc. Feet of F. bdlc.* 42, m. 140. He was living in 1613, when a pedigree was recorded, which begins wrongly. He died 31 Dec. 1626 holding the manor of Bradshaw, with sixteen messuages, a fulling mill, 300 acres of land, 200 acres of meadow, 500 acres of pasture, 50 acres of wood, 500 acres of moor, &c., in Bradshaw, 1½ acres in Harwood, and a messuage in Bolton; John his son and heir was over forty years of age; *Towneley MS. C.* 8, 13 (Chet. Lib.), fol. 78; *Manch. Ct. Leet Rec.* iii, 128.

John Bradshaw the heir was still living in 1664, when a pedigree was recorded, showing a son John and a grandson also John, the last-named being eighteen years of age; *Dugdale, Visit.* (Chet. Soc.), 50. This pedigree was signed by Hugh Bradshaw, a younger son of John the grandfather. John Bradshaw, a 'very ancient' man, was buried 3 Feb. 1665-6; an incident at his funeral is narrated by Oliver Heywood in his *Diaries*, iii, 94.

A settlement of the manor of Bradshaw, &c., was made by fine in 1642, the deforciant being John Bradshaw and Anne his wife, John Hartley and Alice his wife; *Pal. of Lanc. Feet of F. bdlc.* 141, no. 5.

A 'Shakespeare Bible' noticed in *N. and Q.* (6th ser. xi, 57) contains some particulars of the Bradshaw family, William, younger son of John Bradshaw, having been an owner of it.

¹⁴ A zealous Protestant, writing in 1595 to some one in authority urging the more rigorous prosecution of recusants, suggested John Bradshaw of Bradshaw as a proper person to be nominated a commissioner for the purpose; *Hist. MSS. Com. Rep.* xiv, App. iv, 585. He was a justice

Bolton, to Mr. John Henry Bradshaw Isherwood, the present lord of the manor and principal landowner.¹⁶

Bradshaw Hall stands a little over a quarter of a mile north of the village on the left bank of the Bradshaw Brook, hidden from the road by tall trees. The house is a fragment of a fine 17th-century building, with a new south front dating from the early years of the last century and a large modern north-west wing. The original building had a frontage facing east of over 60 ft., and was of three stories with centre porch and flanking bay windows going up the full height, and with an almost continuous range of mullioned and transomed windows on each floor. The walls were faced with sandstone and finished with a plain parapet ornamented with spiked finials, and the roofs were covered with stone slates. On the north side the house extended westward about 60 ft., the plan thus forming an irregular L-shape, each wing being 25 ft. in width. The north wing still stands pretty much as when built, being still three stories in height and preserving its rows of mullioned and transomed windows, together with the stone parapet, but the east

of the peace; *ibid.* 583. In 1620 he and a number of others were presented 'for not communicating at Easter last or not receiving the same kneeling'; he appears to have conformed by deputy; Scholes and Pimblett, *Bolton*, 315. He was a member of the Presbyterian classis in 1646. After the Restoration Bradshaw Chapel, by the connivance of the Bradshaw family, remained in the hands of the Nonconformists for some time.

¹⁵ John Bradshaw of Bradshaw, Esq., in his will dated 15 March 1693-4, recites his indentures of 15-16 May 1692, whereby he empowered his trustees, Henry Wrigley of Langley, Thomas Bradshaw of Haslingden, and John Jenkinson of Failsforth, gentls., by lease, mortgage, or sale to raise legacies for his younger children from his manor of Bradshaw, Bradshaw Hall, and all his lands in Bradshaw, Harwood, and Tottington; and these trusts fulfilled he devised the same lands to his son John Bradshaw and his heirs. This son shortly afterwards, having no issue by his wife, a daughter of — Gregge of Chester, sold the estate to Henry Bradshaw of Marple Hall'; *Raines in Notitia Cestr.* ii, 17.

John Bradshaw, the testator, was buried 30 March 1694; *Hist. MSS. Com. Rep.* xiv, App. iv, 291. The sale of his estates must have been determined upon already, for by fine of 28 March 1694 Henry Bradshaw secured from John Bradshaw, Thomas Bradshaw, Henry Wrigley, and John Jenkinson the manor of Bradshaw, together with messuages, water grain mill, lands and pasture rights in Bradshaw, Harwood, and Tottington; *Pal. of Lanc. Feet of F. bdlc.* 232, m. 70.

'After the sale of Bradshaw the family was represented by the descendants of Thomas Bradshaw, Esq. (great-uncle of the vendor), and his wife Elizabeth, daughter and heiress of Edward Rawstorne of Lum Hall, Esq., and whose grandson, — Rawstorne, gent., by his wife Dorothy, daughter of the Rev. Henry Walmsley of New Malton in the county of York, had a son Dr. Henry Bradshaw, living in Salford in 1765, and who considered himself entitled to this estate of his male ancestors'; *Raines, op. cit.* ii, 18.

¹⁶ For an account of this family see Earwaker, *East Cheshire*, ii, 61-76; Ormerod, *Cheshire* (ed. Helsby), iii, 843.

A HISTORY OF LANCASHIRE

front at some time before the beginning of the 18th century has been mutilated by the removal of the upper story and the destruction of the south end. All that remains standing therefore is now the lower part of the northern end of the principal elevation, including the porch and chamber over, and the bay window adjoining it on the north. Above the porch the wall is carried up to the level of the sills of the now-destroyed upper windows, but along the remainder of the front the later roof constructed after the removal of the upper story is visible, and the wall ends just above the first-floor windows. This front, therefore, though picturesque as a fragment, is divested of all its original architectural proportions, and suffers greatly in its sky line by the somewhat haphazard way in which the later repairs were effected. The porch entrance is under a semicircular doorway flanked by rather rude fluted Tuscan columns on pedestals, and carrying an entablature ornamented with large spiked finials. Above the door is a stone with the arms of Bradshaw, and the arms occur again with supporters on a stone over the five-light mullioned window to the porch chamber. In 1813 a restoration of the house took place, when the present plain south front was erected, much of the old stone being removed. The porch between the flanking sash bay windows on this side is a later addition, and a large north-west wing has been added to the house in recent times. In 1890 the foundations of the destroyed part of the east front were laid bare, the ground, which had risen on this side of the house 2 or 3 ft., was reduced to its original level, and the steps to the porch restored. The interior is almost entirely modernized, but in the window of the breakfast-room are two old quarries bearing the arms and crest of Bradshaw. The date of the erection of the house is not known, but it was probably the early years of the 17th century.

The Radcliffes of Smithills and their successors the

¹⁷ In 1312 Roger de Radcliffe received from Adam del Birches a messuage, 30 acres of land, &c., in Harwood and Bradshaw, the remainders being to Robert son of Roger and his heirs, and then to Adam de Hulton and his heirs; *Final Conc.* ii, 13. From later suits it appears that this estate had in the time of Edward I been granted by Alan de Bradshaw to Roger de Radcliffe and his issue; in default to remain to Richard brother of Roger and his issue; by virtue of which, as Roger died without issue, it should have descended to Robert son and heir of Richard de Radcliffe, and then to Richard son of Robert, who claimed it in 1346; *De Banco R.* 345, m. 64 d. It appears that in virtue of the fine of 1312 Adam de Hulton (and Roger his son) and John de Radcliffe, rector of Bury, had taken possession; Robert the son of Roger, named in the fine, died without issue; *ibid.* R. 344, m. 21 d.; R. 348, m. 404 d.

This appears to be the estate in 'Harwood' held by Sir Ralph de Radcliffe of Smithills in 1406 of John son of Ellis de Bradshaw in socage by a rent of 3s.; its value was 40s. a year clear; Towneley MS. DD, no. 1504. In 1517 John Barton's estate in Harwood and Bradshaw was held of the lord of Manchester by unknown services; Duchy of Lanc. Inq. p.m. iv, no. 82. It is also mentioned in later inquisitions, e.g. *Lancs. Inq. p.m.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), i, 207-11.

¹⁸ In 1302 Adam de Hindley did not

prosecute a claim against Hugh de Hindley and others respecting a tenement in Bradshaw; *Assize R.* 418, m. 13.

Joan widow of Richard de Faldworthings in 1351 claimed a messuage and two plough-lands in Bradshaw against Thurstan de Holland; Duchy of Lanc. *Assize R.* i, Mich. m. 5 d., Lent m. 7.

¹⁹ Land tax returns at Preston.

²⁰ The 'Chapel fields' are mentioned in the will of John Bradshaw, 1548, already quoted.

²¹ See *Lancs. and Ches. Antiq. Soc.* xii, 115, 116; the inscription is AVE MARIA GRACIA PLENA.

²² The chapel existed in 1650, when it was served by Mr. Felgate, 'a man of civil carriage,' who had been elected by the congregation; there was no income beyond the voluntary offerings of the people; *Commonwealth Ch. Surv.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), 33. Nothing is said as to the chapel having been recently built, as is done in some other cases; but it was recommended that it be made a parish church. In 1646 it had been ordered that £13 16s. 10d. a year, out of Mr. Anderton's sequestered tithes, be allowed to the minister; *Plund. Mins. Accts.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), i, 17. There are references to Mr. Felgate's appointment and conduct in *Bury Classis* (Chet. Soc.), 97, 99, 106, 107, 121, 122. Mr. Banks was the preacher in 1653; *ibid.* 133. For Samuel Felgate's subsequent career see Dr. Shaw's account of him, *op. cit.* 225, 226; and for James

Bartons long had an estate in Harwood, apparently in the Bradshaw part of that township.¹⁷ There are but few other references to the place.¹⁸

The landowners in 1802 were Henry Bradshaw Isherwood and John Parker, the latter contributing about a fifth of the land tax.¹⁹

A chapel is supposed to have existed **CHURCH** at Bradshaw before the Reformation, but nothing is known of its history; ²⁰ a mediaeval bell, hanging in the present chapel, is said to have been brought from Yorkshire.²¹ It was rebuilt about 1640 by the Bradshaw family,²² and after decaying somewhat was in good repair in 1724. There was no endowment.²³ In 1843 it was 'a mean and dilapidated structure,' but was rebuilt in 1872 in the Early English style, and is known as St. Maxentius'.²⁴ The ivy-grown tower of the old building of 16th or 17th century date still stands in the churchyard to the west of the present church. Formerly it was little more than a domestic chapel for the Bradshaws and their tenants,²⁵ and after the Restoration was used by the Nonconformists from time to time;²⁶ but the incumbents are now nominated by the vicars of Bolton. The net value is given as £385 a year. A parish was assigned to it in 1853.²⁷ The following have been curates and vicars:—²⁸

1726	John Norris, M.A. (Glasgow)
1737-8	James Wyld, M.A.
1769	Robert Dean, B.A. ²⁹
1799	John Atkinson, M.A.
1802	John Lutener, B.A.
1812	Thomas Brocklebank ³⁰
1822	Birkett Dawson, B.D. (Emmanuel Coll. Camb.)
1844	Philemon Alfred Galindo, ³¹ B.A. (T.C.D.)
1877	Robert Kershaw Judson, M.A. (St. John's Coll. Camb.)

Banks, a Royalist, *Manchester Classis* (Chet. Soc.), 411-12.

²⁸ Gastrell, *Notitia*, ii, 17, 18; the voluntary contributions amounted to about £12 a year. There were thirty-five 'papists' in the chapelry, a Dissenters' meeting-place (which had disappeared by 1724), and a solitary Quaker.

²⁴ Mr. Galindo for some reason imagined this to have been the old dedication.

²⁵ John Bradshaw in 1541 paid a chaplain, who may, however, have ministered in the parish church; *Clergy List* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), 13.

²⁶ Oliver Heywood preached funeral sermons there in 1669; *Diaries*, i, 98, 263. See also Bridgeman, *Wigan Church* (Chet. Soc.), iii, 470, and W. F. Irvine, *Rivington*, 94.

From Mr. Earwaker's notes and the Visitation Lists it appears that John (or Thomas) Isherwood was at the chapel in 1663, Charles Isherwood in 1671, and Richard Critchley in 1676. In 1687 Bishop Cartwright ordained Thomas Whitehead, B.A., of Jesus College, Cambridge, to the curacy; Raines in *Notitia Cestr.* ii, 18. He was at Rochdale in 1691.

²⁷ *Lond. Gaz.* 4 March 1853.

²⁸ From the Church P. at Chester Dioc. Reg.

²⁹ Also curate of Cockey in 1778; he died in 1799; *Parson Folds*, 49.

³⁰ Vicar of Deane, 1818 to 1830.

³¹ By his will and codicil, 1878-80, he left £1,560 to the endowment of the church; *End. Char. Rep.*



BRADSHAW HALL

TURTON

Turton, 1212, and commonly; Thurton, 1277; Terton *alias* Torton, 1282.

This township, with an area of 4,614 acres, extends in a north and north-west direction for nearly 5 miles. A large part of the centre is occupied by lofty moorlands, known as Turton Heights and Turton Moor, rising to 1,100 and 1,280 ft. respectively. Along the northern and eastern boundaries flows the Cadshaw or Bradshaw Brook, on the upper part of which have been formed two large reservoirs for the Bolton Waterworks. The village of Turton, called Chapeltown, lies near this brook about the centre of the valley, close to the junction of the boundaries of Turton, Edgeworth, Quarlton, and Bradshaw. Billy Brook bounds Chapeltown on the west and south; to the south of it the ground rises again, forming a spur of the greater hills mentioned, and here stands Turton Tower at a height of 600 ft. above the sea. Still farther to the south, on the slope of the main elevation, is the hamlet of Bromley Cross.¹ Farther south again, on the tongue of land between Bradshaw and Eagley Brooks, lie the hamlets of Birtenshaw and Oaks. Eagley Brook forms the south-west boundary of the township. Proceeding north-west from Birtenshaw are in succession the villages and hamlets of Toppings, Dunscar, Coxgreen, Egerton or Walmsley, and Dimple.

In 1901 the census was taken in two portions; the population of the eastern half, together with Harwood and Bradshaw, was 1,611; and that of the western part, including Longworth, was 7,389.

The principal road, that from Bolton to Darwen, divides at the southern end of the township so as to pass round each side of the central hill; the eastern branch goes through Turton village to Edgeworth, and the western through Egerton, over Charters Moss, 916 ft. high, to Blackburn. The Lancashire and Yorkshire Company's Bolton and Blackburn railway passes through the eastern side of the township, and has three stations—the Oaks, Bromley Cross, and Turton and Edgeworth.

To the north of Toppings stands the Blair Hospital, built in 1886 from a bequest of Stephen Blair, formerly M.P. for Bolton.²

On the summit of the hill to the north-east of Walmsley is or was a Druidical circle.³ The Hang-

ing stone is near the extreme north-west boundary. The copper head of an old British standard has been found. Some notes of Turton Tower, Egerton Hall, and skulls found, are given in Harland and Wilkinson's *Legends*.

The 'old Turton acre' had 6½ yards to the perch.⁴

A token was issued at Walmsley Chapel in 1652.⁵

There were 138 hearths liable to the tax in 1666. The largest houses were those of James Chetham, with fourteen hearths, and Mrs. Walmsley six.⁶

The cross and stocks were formerly near the school at Turton.

A local board was formed in 1873;⁷ this was replaced by an urban district council in 1894. Four years later the district was extended so as to include the adjacent townships of Harwood, Bradshaw, Quarlton, Edgeworth, Entwisle, Longworth, and the northern part of Sharples.⁸ The council has twenty-one members, elected by seven wards—Chapeltown, Bromley Cross, Eagley, Egerton, Bradshaw, Edgeworth, and Belmont. By the same Act the township or civil parish of Turton was extended to include Harwood and Bradshaw.

There are numerous cotton mills, print works, bleach works, dye works, and quarries. The land is chiefly in pasture. The Egerton spinning mills were formerly worked by a powerful water wheel. There is a disused paper mill at Chapeltown.

The cattle fair, formerly held on 4 and 5 September, now takes place on the first Monday in September. A poetical lament over the immorality which used to characterize the occasion was printed by William Sheldrake in 1789.⁹

The manor of **TURTON**, assessed as **MANOR** one plough-land, was from the earliest record of it a member of the barony of Manchester. In 1212 it formed part—later called a fourth or an eighth part—of the composite knight's fee held chiefly by Richard de Lathom,¹⁰ and appears to have been granted to one of the junior members of the Lathom family, who also received the manor of Tarbock in Huyton.¹¹ There was,



LATHOM. Or on a chief indented azure three plates.

¹ Arthur Bromley of Turton occurs in 1617 and later; *Lancs. Inq. p.m.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), ii, 45.

² *End. Char. Rep. for Bolton Parish*, 1904, p. 77.

³ It was almost entirely destroyed by a farmer in order to prevent trespassing. Another circle has been found; *Lancs. and Ches. Antiq. Soc.* xi, 155; xii, 42–51.

⁴ Scholes, *Turton Tower*, 14.

⁵ *Lancs. and Ches. Antiq. Soc.* v, 91; it bears the initials W. A. W.

⁶ Subs. R. Lancs. bdle. 250, no. 9.

⁷ *Lond. Gaz.* 8 April 1873.

⁸ By the Bolton, Turton, and West-houghton Extension Act, 1898.

⁹ The writer gives a not too flattering account of the 'little paltry-looking village,' with its thirteen houses, chapel, and school. The villagers combined agriculture and weaving.

¹⁰ *Lancs. Inq. and Extents* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), i, 54. In 1282 Robert de Lathom held Turton for the

fourth part of a knight's fee, while twenty years later Ellen de Torbock held directly of Thomas Grelley the eighth part of a fee in Turton; *ibid.* 248, 314. In 1320 Ellen de Torbock for the eighth part of a fee in Turton owed homage to the lord of Manchester, paid yearly 18d. sake fee and 18d. for castle ward, and rendered pature; *Mamecestre* (Chet. Soc.), ii, 286.

Sir Thomas de Lathom was returned as holding Turton in 1346–55; *Feud. Aids*, iii, 89.

¹¹ See the account of Tarbock, *V.C.H. Lancs.* iii. There is no record of the manner in which they became possessed of Turton, but as early as 1246 Henry de Torbock was a defendant to a claim for the third part of a mill in Turton put forward by William de Bradshaw; *Assize R.* 404, m. 2. A grant of free warren was obtained in 1256–7. Henry de Lathom of Tarbock and Ellen his wife were lords of the vill in 1280 and in 1284, when, with others, they were charged with having disseised

Ellis son of Gamel of his common of pasture in 200 acres of moor in Turton; *De Banco R.* 36, m. 93; *Assize R.* 1268, m. 11 d.; *R.* 1271, m. 12. It may be added that there was in 1292 a dispute between William and Alexander, sons of Ellis Gamelson, respecting a rent of 11d. arising out of a tenement in Turton; *Assize R.* 408, m. 61. Also between Alexander and his father; *ibid.* m. 6 d.

Ellen widow of Henry de Lathom in 1301 recovered two messuages and 10 acres in Turton against Ralph de Radcliffe; *De Banco R.* 135, m. 131 d.

Adam son of Adam de Olleden claimed two messuages, 40 acres of land, &c., in Turton, against Richard de Torbock in 1324–5, and against Ellen widow of Henry de Lathom and Richard her son in 1331; Ellen, however, produced a quitclaim by Adam; *Assize R.* 426, m. 9; *R.* 1404, m. 18 d.

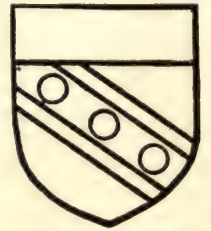
A more important plea occurs in December 1355, when Sir William Carles

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however, a family using Turton as a surname.¹² The manor descended with Tarbock until the beginning of the 15th century.¹³ John de Torbock, who died in 1420, left a daughter and heir Elizabeth, who married William Orrell of Orrell, near Wigan, and a partition of the estates was made, Tarbock being secured by the heir male, while Turton became the seat of the Orrells.¹⁴ Each line from time to time laid claim to the whole of the estates, but without success.¹⁵

Apart from these lawsuits but little record of the family has survived.¹⁶ Ralph Orrell died at Turton on 24 July 1533, holding the manor of Turton of Sir Thomas West, Lord La Warre, as of his manor of Manchester, the mesne lordship of Lathom having

probably long been forgotten; the service was unknown to the jury, but a rent of 18*d.* was payable. Ralph Orrell also held lands in Dalton and Wigan, and left as heir his son John, then twenty-five years of age.¹⁷ John Orrell died in 1581,¹⁸ and his son William made a feoffment of the manor of Turton in that year.¹⁹ William, who built Turton Tower in 1596,²⁰ was followed by his son and heir John,²¹ and the latter by his bro-



ORRELL. *Argent three torteaux in bend between two bendlets gules, a chief sable.*

and Emma his wife, then lords of Tarbock, claimed from Sir Thomas de Lathom the elder an acquittal of the service demanded by Sir Roger La Warre; Duchy of Lanc. Assize R. 4, m. 25. This shows that the mesne lordship of the Lathoms was still recognized.

¹² William de Turton is named in 1204 as a man of some position; Farrer, *Lancs. Pipe R.* 218, quoting Curia Regis R. 34. He may have been lord of the place under the Lathoms, his manor passing to the Torbocks by a daughter's marriage. Nicholas de Turton and Eva his wife complained in 1278 that Thomas son of Henry and Amiria his wife had obstructed a roadway in Turton; Assize R. 1238, m. 31. Alexander de Turton was a defendant in 1306; De Banco R. 159, m. 7.

Richard son of Robert de Turton in 1278 successfully claimed a tenement in Heaton against Robert son of Henry de Turton and Alice his wife; Assize R. 1238, m. 31 d.

Ellen widow of Henry de Lathom [of Tarbock] in 1303 purchased a messuage, 20 acres of land, &c., in Turton from Richard son of Henry de Turton; *Final Conc.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), i, 201.

Margery widow of Thomas de Turton in 1371 defended her title to a messuage and lands in Turton against Adam le Ward of Sharples; De Banco R. 444; m. 173 d.

¹⁸ Sir Richard de Torbock in 1387 held Turton, with its appurtenances, of the lord of Lathom, by services which were not known; *Lancs. Inq. p.m.* (Chet. Soc.), i, 35.

In a grant by the feoffees of Sir Henry de Torbock in 1410, the following lands in the manor of Turton are named: an oxgang in the Ridding, Windbarrow oxgang, Verclough oxgang, an oxgang held by Thomas del Wood, and Morewall oxgang; Torhawe, Hinch Place, Timber Bottom, Birchinslaw Hey, Longhurst; Towneley MS. C. 8, 20 (Chet. Lib.) no. 8.

¹⁴ In 1513, however, Sir Edmund Trafford was stated to hold three messuages and land in Turton of Sir William Torbock by an unknown service; Duchy of Lanc. Inq. p.m. iv, no. 51. An earlier trace of this estate occurs in 1376, when Henry de Torbock and Ralph son of William de Radcliffe disputed concerning the custody of lands in Turton, Henry son of Sir Henry de Trafford being under age; De Banco R. 462, m. 89.

¹⁵ Particulars of the descent and the lawsuits are given in the account of Tarbock. See also Piccope MSS. iii, fol. 444.

Claims were made by the Torbock family for Turton and Walton Lees also; Pal. of Lanc. Plea R. 48, m. 6; R. 60, m. 7. These show that Ralph the son of William Orrell and Elizabeth Torbock his wife was living in 1478.

¹⁶ Land in Turton was in 1442 held of

William Orrell the younger by Anian de Entwisle; Towneley MS. DD, no. 1478.

William Orrell in 1473 held Turton by the eighth part of a knight's fee, rendering pature, a rent of 18*d.*, and 18*d.* castle ward; *Mamecestre*, iii, 479. A little later Ralph Orrell was tenant; *ibid.* 515.

A number of Orrell deeds are copied in Raines MSS. (Chet. Lib.), vi, fol. 171 and foll. They begin with a charge of forgery against the Torbocks. In 1477 Hugh Mort of Wigan granted Watsha in Turton to Ralph Orrell (173). In 1491 and 1497 are bonds to Ralph Orrell and William his son and heir apparent, regarding the marriage of Joan daughter of Ralph with Richard Gillibrand (174-5).

The following are from the late Mr. T. Helsby-Acton's notes of Turton deeds: 1483—grant from Ralph Orrell to Thurstan his son (confirmed by William the son and heir of Ralph in 1515), and power of attorney by Thurstan to his uncle Robert Orrell; 1486—William son and heir apparent of Ralph Orrell to marry Katherine daughter of Gilbert Urmston; James Orrell, uncle of Ralph, is mentioned, also Isabel widow of William father of Ralph; 1506—grant by William son and heir of Ralph Orrell to Margery widow of Ralph; 1509—grant of all his lands by the same to Ralph his son and heir apparent and other trustees, for the performance of his will; 1533—John son and heir apparent of John Bradshaw had married Mary daughter of Ralph Orrell, deceased; 1537—award between John Orrell and Agnes his father's widow; 1575—settlement for William son and heir apparent of John Orrell, who had married Ellen sister of William Clifton of Balam and widow of William Singleton of Bank Hall, with remainders to Francis and Richard, other sons of John Orrell; 1583—William Orrell to Ralph Green of Turton; 1587—agreement between William Orrell and Richard his brother; Elizabeth their father's widow is mentioned.

In 1509 a marriage was arranged between Ralph son and heir of Ralph Assheton of Great Lever, and Margaret daughter of William Orrell; Raines MSS. vi, 199.

¹⁷ Duchy of Lanc. Inq. p.m. vii, no. 1; in this is recited a grant in 1506 by Ralph Orrell, grandfather of the Ralph of 1533, to his sons Peter, Robert, and George, of whom Robert was living in 1533. There is also recited a feoffment by William Orrell, son and heir of Ralph the elder, made in 1513, mentioning Valentine and Alexander his sons. Ralph the younger, deceased, was the son and heir of William Orrell.

A pedigree was recorded in 1533 (*Visit.*

Chet. Soc. 201), showing that John was the eldest son of Ralph Orrell by his first wife Anne, the daughter of William Lathom.

In 1529 Ralph Orrell had purchased the messuage called 'Nichall deyne' from James son and heir of Edward Hunt of Turton; Raines, op. cit. 176. Nichodine Mills were in 1866 demolished to prepare for the Wayoh Reservoir.

There was a dispute in 1541 between John Orrell and Lord La Warre as to the services due to the lord of Manchester; *Ducatus Lanc.* (Rec. Com.), ii, 74.

¹⁸ Earwaker, *Manch. Ct. Leet Rec.* i, 223; William Orrell, the son and heir, was of full age, but the jury of the court had much difficulty in inducing him to appear and do his suit and service; he held out till 1585; *ibid.* i, 247.

By his will, made in May and proved in July 1581, John Orrell desired to be buried 'in the Chapel of Jesus, betwixt his father and the church wall, within the parish church of Bolton,' and gave the curate of Bolton 10*s.* 'to pray for his ancestors' souls, his soul, and all Christian souls'; *ibid.* i, 223, n. The family continued to adhere to the Roman religion; see Raines and Sutton, *Humph. Chetham* (Chet. Soc.), i, 32.

The will and inventory of Elizabeth widow of John Orrell, dated 1607, are printed in Piccope, *Wills* (Chet. Soc.), ii, 142.

The chapel above referred to continued to descend with Turton until about a century ago, when it was sold by James Greene to Robert Knowles, colliery proprietor; J. C. Scholes, *Turton Tower*, 30. This Robert Knowles was great-grandfather of Sir Lees Knowles.

¹⁹ Pal. of Lanc. Feet of F. bde. 43, m. 19. In two other fines of the same time William is called 'son and heir apparent of John Orrell'; *ibid.* m. 62, 76.

²⁰ Raines MSS. vi, fol. 184; see below.

²¹ William Orrell died at Southwark, 29 May 1612, holding the manor of Turton and lands there of Sir Nicholas Mosley as of his manor of Manchester in socage, by a rent of 18*d.*; John his son and heir was twenty-four years of age; *Lancs. Inq. p.m.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), i, 223.

John Orrell, however, seems to have been in possession of the family manors and lands in 1607, when he made a settlement of them; Pal. of Lanc. Feet of F. bde. 72, no. 7. This may have been an arrangement due to his coming of age. He and William Orrell made another settlement in 1618, and John alone in 1625; *ibid.* bde. 90, no. 33; 107, no. 41.

A pedigree of three generations was recorded in 1613; *Visit.* (Chet. Soc.), 50.



TURTON TOWER, C. 1844
(From a Drawing by T. T. Dodd)

ther and heir William Orrell,²² who in 1628 sold the manor to Humphrey Chetham, the founder of Chetham's Hospital and Library.²³

On Humphrey's death in 1653 he was succeeded at Turton by his nephew George, son of James Chetham.²⁴ George Chetham was alderman and sheriff of London in 1656,²⁵ and high sheriff of Lancashire in 1659-60;²⁶ he died at Turton in 1664, and was succeeded by his son James, who held the manor till his death in 1697. His eldest son Samuel followed, and then in 1745 the third son Humphrey, who died unmarried in 1749.²⁷ Turton then by his will went to a cousin, Edward Chetham of Nuthurst, after whose death in 1769 a partition of the estates was made. Alice, his elder sister, who had married Adam Bland, received Turton.²⁸ She left an only daughter Mary, wife of Mordecai Greene, a Spanish merchant,²⁹ and their son James was in 1782 placed in possession of the manor of Turton, with Turton Tower, the water corn-mill, and other properties.³⁰

James Greene died in 1814, leaving five daughters as co-heirs,³¹ and the estates were divided among them in 1833, Turton Tower and the reputed manor being assigned to the eldest, Mary Anne wife of Edward Frere of Clydach; they sold it in 1835 to James Kay.³² The new lord was born at Edgefold in Entwistle, and was a successful cotton spinner at Preston

and Pendleton. He resided at the Tower till his death in 1857. Robert, the eldest surviving son, was incapable of managing the estate, and his younger brother James was the acting owner. He died in 1876, and his son James succeeded, becoming lord of Turton on his uncle Robert's death in 1878. The trustees of James Kay, under his will of 1882, sold to Mrs. Appleton, from whose representatives the Tower and the lordship of the manor were in 1903 acquired by Sir Lees Knowles, bart., who resides at Westwood in Pendlebury,³³ and belongs to a family connected with the Turton district for several centuries.^{33a}

TURTON TOWER stands on high ground in a situation described by Camden as 'amongst precipices and wastes,' about 4 miles north of Bolton. It is an exceedingly interesting building, the oldest part of which consists of a stone tower built square with the compass, measuring externally 45 ft. in length from north to south, and 28 ft. in width, with walls 4 ft. thick. There is no architectural feature remaining to determine the precise date of the original walls, which are of a somewhat rough order with large quoin stones; whether any part of the building is earlier than the first part of the 15th century is very doubtful. The tower was altered and raised in the 16th century, when additions in stone and timber were made on its eastern and northern sides, and a



CHETHAM. *Argent a griffin segreant gules within a bordure sable bezanty.*



KNOWLES, baronet. *Gules on a chevron cotised between two crescents in chief and a crosslet in base argent three roses of the field.*

²² John Orrell was buried at Manchester Church 21 January 1626-7; his brother William was found to be his heir; *Manch. Ct. Leet Rec.* iii, 128. An abstract of the will of his widow Alice, 1647, is given in *Wills* (Chet. Soc. new ser.), i, 239.

²³ The deed of sale is among the few Turton deeds in the Clowes muniments; see also Raines and Sutton, *Humph. Chetham*, i, 31; James C. Scholes, *Turton Tower*, 16; and Pal. of Lanc. Feet of F. bdl. 114, m. 34. The sale included the manor or lordship, the Tower, messuages, dove-houses, water-courses and mills, court leet, mines, lands, &c.

²⁴ The story from this point is mainly taken from James C. Scholes, *Turton Tower* (Bolton, 1880), and *Supplement* (1881), in which a large number of documents are printed. For Humphrey Chetham see Raines and Sutton, *Life*, quoted above; he was described as 'of Turton' in 1632, when he paid £25 on refusing knighthood; *Misc.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), i, 223.

The settlement of Turton on George Chetham is recited in the *Life*, ii, 238, 239; and an inventory of the goods at the Tower at pp. 274-6.

²⁵ For George Chetham, citizen and grocer of London, see E. Axon's *Chetham Genealogies* (Chet. Soc.), 49-52. He lived at Turton from 1648 to 1653 as tenant of his uncle Humphrey. His eldest son Humphrey died there in 1659; an abstract of the funeral sermon, *Πυχθησιναι*, is given by J. C. Scholes, 19-24; he was a pious youth of the Puritan type.

A pedigree was recorded in 1664; Dugdale, *Visit.* (Chet. Soc.), 77.

²⁶ P.R.O. List, 73.

²⁷ Axon, op. cit. 52-6.

²⁸ *Ibid.* 62-3; Adam Bland died in 1723, but his widow lived on till 1774.

In 1769 there was a fine respecting the manor of Turton, &c., Joseph and William Clowes being plaintiffs, and Samuel Clowes and Mary his wife deforciant; Pal. of Lanc. Feet of F. bdl. 381, m. 205. In 1772 there was a further settlement, Alice Bland and Samuel and Mary Clowes being deforciant; *ibid.* bdl. 387, m. 90.

²⁹ A settlement of the manor of Turton, &c., was made by Mordecai Greene and Mary his wife in 1775; Pal. of Lanc. Feet of F. bdl. 393, m. 283. Mordecai Greene died in 1787, and his wife in 1796; Scholes, *Turton Tower*, 29. The Greenes and their descendants have not resided at Turton.

³⁰ *Ibid.* 30, where the deed is printed.

³¹ *Ibid.* 32. The daughters were (1) Mary Anne wife of Edward Frere—one of their sons being Sir Bartle Frere; see Burke, *Landed Gentry*, Frere of Roydon Hall; (2) Arabella Penelope Eliza wife of Peter Richard Hoare son of Sir Richard Hoare, bart.; (3) Charlotte Alice wife of Richard Wilkins and then of Edward William Seymour; (4) Angelina Frances wife of George Matthew Hoare of Morden, Surrey; (5) Anna Sophia, living 1835, unmarried. The descendants of the second and fourth daughters are still among the chief landowners in the township.

In the Common Pleas Rolls are the following recoveries and deeds enrolled relative to the manor of Turton: East.

55 Geo. III, m. 2—Edward Frere, Peter Richard Hoare, George Matthew Hoare, their wives and others, four-fifths of the manor of Turton and of lands in Bolton, Turton, Clayton, Droylsden, Failsworth, Newton, Spotland, and Rochdale; Mich. 59 Geo. III, m. 2—Anna Sophia Greene, John Fitchett, and John Richards, the fifth part of the manor of Turton and lands in Bolton, &c.; Hil. 3 & 4 Geo. IV, m. 148—Edward Frere and others and Charles Barrett and George Frere, the manor of Turton, mills, farms, free school, chapel, mines, &c.; Hil. 3 Will. IV, m. 62—Edward Frere, Peter Richard Hoare, George Matthew Hoare, Anna Sophia Greene and others, the manor of Turton, and lands in Turton, &c., this being the record of partition.

³² The details concerning this family are taken from Mr. Scholes's works already cited; there is a pedigree of the Kay family in the *Supplement*, and another in his *Turton Documentary Notes* (Bolton, 1882).

³³ Information of Sir Lees Knowles. For the pedigree of this family see Baines, *Lancs.* (ed. Croston), iii, 222-4; James C. Scholes, *Genealogy of the Knowles Family of Edgeworth, &c.* (1886).

^{33a} There are memorials of them in Bolton and Turton churches. The Hawkshaw estate, the family inheritance, now belongs to Mr. Robert Knowles, of Ednaston Lodge, Derby. Plaster-work with the initials R. K. 1670. A from Quarlton Old Hall, referring to Robert and Ann Knowles, is in the possession of Sir Lees Knowles, who has given this information.

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range of buildings erected at right angles to it on the north-east. The plan thus formed, which is still that of the house, follows the lines of two sides of a court inclosed by buildings on the north and west. These later buildings were much altered in the first half of the 19th century, when they assumed their present appearance. The house therefore belongs to three main periods: the tower proper to the Middle Ages, the original north wing and additions to the reign of Queen Elizabeth, the alteration and refacing of the latter to the early years of Queen Victoria. The whole forms a very picturesque group of buildings, the stonework of the older part offering a strong but agreeable contrast to the irregular wood and plaster work set against it.

There is no trace of the building ever having been of larger extent than at present, and the original structure no doubt consisted simply of a single peel tower with wooden buildings adjoining. The masonry of the tower is in a very good state of preservation, and at the north-east corner are the remains of a projecting vice perfect still at the top, but cut away in recent times in the lower story. In the north-west corner is still the shaft of a garderobe projecting from the main structure, and there is a garderobe cut in the thickness of the wall, probably at a later date. The original tower would be about 35 ft. high, and consisted of three low stories, evidences of which still remain in the old blocked window-openings which can be seen from the outside—two on the ground floor, one on the upper floor, and five on the original top floor. These windows were of two lights on the two lower stories, and of one light above. There are also the remains of a window almost entirely destroyed on the north side, near what is now the pantry door, and further remains of another window above it, now internal, proving that at this time there were no buildings adjoining the tower proper on the north side.

These buildings were added in the 16th century, but whether they predated the rebuilding which Camden states took place in 1596 is not certain. Some of the older parts are stated to have been at that date of lath and plaster, showing that some additions must have been made to the stone tower probably at the beginning of the 16th century, and it is possible that the whole north wing may have been erected at that time. What the lath and plaster portions of the building prior to 1596 were like is not known, but they probably indicate some kind of addition to the original structure before the more extensive additions which more than doubled the area of the plan. The north or kitchen wing is set at an irregular angle with the tower, being swung slightly to the south; it consisted originally of a two-storied stone building with heavily timbered pitched roof, with three detached chimneys in the centre and two corbelled from the north wall, and so continued till the alteration in the beginning of the last century.

The room immediately north of the tower proper, which forms the junction between the original structure and the later wing, was no doubt built at the same time, though it may have been of larger extent, the north wall having been rebuilt in later times. Whether there were any buildings in the position of the present entrance and staircase on the east side of the tower before 1596, or, if so, what was the nature of them, cannot be stated, though it is probable that some kind of more convenient entrance would by this time have been found necessary. The present entrance and entrance-hall would seem to belong, however, to the rebuilding of 1596, though externally altered since. In that year vast changes were made in the building with a view of bringing its comfort up to the more luxurious standard of the times, and the tower proper then assumed practically its present appearance. The old floors were taken out, the stories raised so that two occupied nearly the whole space of the former three, and a new story was added, raising the height to 45 ft. to the top of the battlements. The old narrow windows were done away with or blocked up, and the present large three, four, and five-light mullioned and transomed windows with labels took their place, entirely altering the appearance of the old part of the building. The later story is of ashlar masonry, and is separated from the old rubble walling below by a moulded string-course, and the battlements have a continuous moulding round merlons and embrasures, with ornamental finials at the angles.

The building, as it was left by the Orrells in 1628, was substantially that which remained till the great changes which took place under James Kay after 1835, though it is probable that some alterations would be made by Humphrey Chetham when he purchased the property at the former date.⁸⁴ The present oak staircase, with flat pierced balusters, and square newels with balls, is most likely his work or that of his successor, replacing or modifying one erected not very long before, but there is no record of the Chethams having undertaken any building or alteration.

Some restoration, however, appears to have been done in the interior in the 18th century, but not such as materially affected the structure, and the arrangement of the top floor of the tower may belong to this period, together with the roof, which does not appear to be the original 16th-century one, the stone corbels which carried the beams being now in most instances unoccupied. From about 1809 to 1835 the building was occupied as a farm-house, as well as being used as a corn-mill for a considerable time,⁸⁵ and during this period it suffered a good deal (the lower part of the stone staircase no doubt being then cut away). It was in this condition when James Kay purchased the property and determined to restore it.

Illustrations of Turton Tower in the early years of the 19th century,⁸⁶ before the alterations took place,

⁸⁴ An inventory taken in November 1642 enumerates the principal rooms: 'the further highmost chamber, the nearer highmost chamber, the green chamber, seven smaller bedrooms including an "oven chamber," the dining-room, the hall, the closet, the buttery, the deyhouse, the pantry and a room over it, the kitchen, the larder, the brewhouse, the workhouse, the garner-house, the cart-house, the kiln,

the stable chamber'; see *Lancs. and Ches. Antiq. Soc.* iii, 198. In another inventory taken the last day of October 1653, the following places are mentioned: 'the hall, the buttery, the dinceing chamber, the greene chamber, the chamber over the porch, the parlour, the lower kitchine, the brewhouse, the brewhouse chamber, the kitchine, the chamber over the deyry-house, the servants' chamber over the

kitchine, the deyry-house, the millne'; *Life of Humphrey Chetham* (Chet. Soc. new ser.), 274.

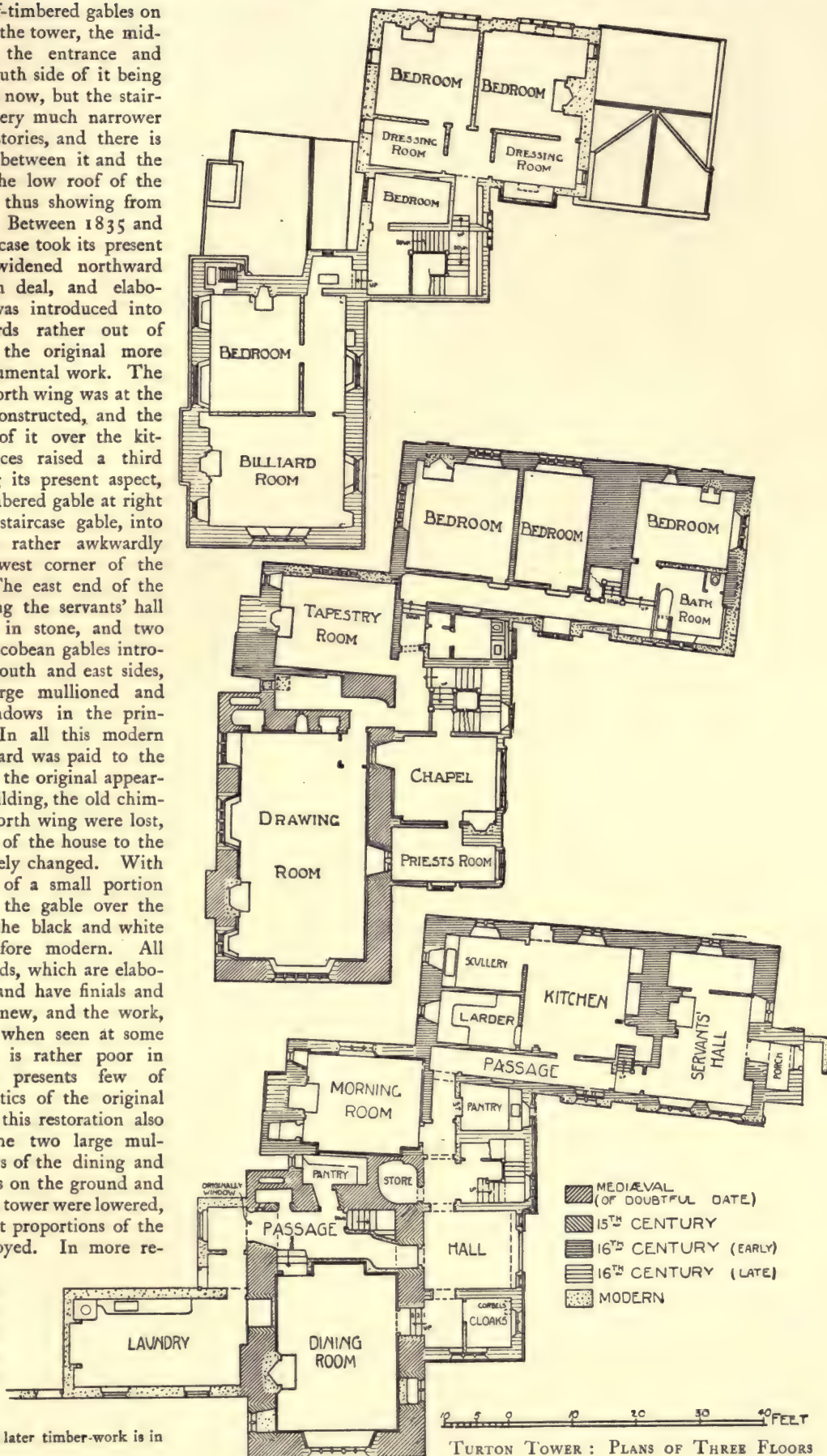
⁸⁵ Scholes and Pimblett, *op. cit.*

⁸⁶ W. G. Philips's View, c. 1822-4; James's Views, 1825; Fisher's Views. These views all show the north wing built in stone and of two stories with detached chimney-shafts as described above.



TURTON TOWER

show three half-timbered gables on the east side of the tower, the middle one over the entrance and those on the south side of it being pretty much as now, but the staircase gable is very much narrower and of three stories, and there is an open space between it and the north wing, the low roof of the morning-room thus showing from the forecourt. Between 1835 and 1844 the staircase took its present form, being widened northward and recased in deal, and elaborate carving was introduced into the barge-boards rather out of keeping with the original more solid and monumental work. The whole of the north wing was at the same time reconstructed, and the west portion of it over the kitchen and offices raised a third story, assuming its present aspect, with a half-timbered gable at right angles to the staircase gable, into which it cuts rather awkwardly in the north-west corner of the forecourt.⁸⁷ The east end of the wing containing the servants' hall was refronted in stone, and two large carved Jacobean gables introduced on the south and east sides, with three large mullioned and transomed windows in the principal front. In all this modern work little regard was paid to the preservation of the original appearance of the building, the old chimneys of the north wing were lost, and the aspect of the house to the forecourt entirely changed. With the exception of a small portion of timber in the gable over the entrance, all the black and white work is therefore modern. All the barge-boards, which are elaborately carved and have finials and pendants, are new, and the work, if picturesque when seen at some little distance, is rather poor in quality, and presents few of the characteristics of the original structure. In this restoration also the sills of the two large mullioned windows of the dining and drawing rooms on the ground and first floor of the tower were lowered, and the ancient proportions of the windows destroyed. In more recent years a low one-story building, now a laundry, has been erected on the west side of the tower.



⁸⁷ Most of this later timber-work is in deal.

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The plan, as will be gathered from the foregoing description, follows no precedent; the original peel tower, having been retained and altered to suit later requirements, now contains the principal rooms of the house, the dining-room occupying the ground floor, and the drawing-room the floor above. The floor of the dining-room is about 2 ft. below the present level of the ground outside, and the room is entered from a lobby on the south side of the hall by a descent of three steps. It is 25 ft. long by 19 ft. in width, and 11 ft. 6 in. in height, and is lighted by a large five-light window at the south end containing some good Swiss 16th-century painted glass in its upper lights. The walls are panelled their full height with 18th-century panelling brought here from Middleton Hall, near Manchester, on its demolition in 1845. The mantelpiece and ceiling are modern. Behind the panelling at the south end of the room are two small original two-light windows facing east and west, probably blocked up when the panelling was inserted, but retaining their glass and showing from the outside.³⁸ There is a blocked-up opening on the west wall. The dining-room does not extend the whole length of the tower, a flagged passage 8 ft. wide being taken across the north end at the level of the entrance hall, and separated from the room by a thin modern wall. From this passage steps go down to the cellar, and two doors on the north side open respectively into what was originally the bottom of the garderobe at the north-west corner, and through the thickness of the wall into a small room now called a pantry in the space between the outside of the tower north wall and the later morning-room, occasioned by the projection of the vice. The drawing-room occupies the whole of the first floor, being 36 ft. in length, and in addition to a five-light window on the south side has three windows of two, three, and four lights respectively on the west side, all of 16th-century date. The walls are panelled in oak to within 4 ft. of the ceiling, which is an elaborate restored Elizabethan one of plaster with panels and pendants. The oak wainscot is old, but adapted to the room, and some respect has been had for the old 15th-century window on the east side, which with its ancient shutters can be examined by withdrawing one of the panels. The fireplace and small vestibule in the north-east corner are modern. The second floor of the tower is divided into two rooms, one of which is used as a billiard-room, and a passage; but the original arrangement is not clear, the division walls being modern, and a fireplace in the present passage showing that alterations have taken place. The upper part of the single-light window of the original third story can still be seen at the floor level behind modern shutters. Access is now gained to the roof by means of a ladder and trap-door in the upper part of the garderobe turret. The roof is hipped from the angles, and covered, like all the roofs to the house, with stone slates. The top part of the vice is covered by a trap-door in the floor of the upper story, ten steps being quite perfect. The upper walls, which probably formed a turret, were destroyed in the raising of the tower and not rebuilt, the later battlements stopping short on each side, and the roof of the tower being continued over.

On the ground floor a passage runs north from the

entrance-hall to the morning-room and kitchen wing. On the right is the staircase 10 ft. square, built within walls with an open well, and a door opposite opening into the bottom of the vice. Beyond the stairs is a modern pantry filling up the irregular space between the old narrow staircase gable and the north wing. The morning-room is panelled all round with wainscot, for the most part old, but made up with grained and varnished deal, and adapted to the walls. The mantelpiece is entirely so made up, and the shields have no antiquity. The room is lit on the north side by a new three-light window, and there is a small original window on the west side to the north of the fireplace. On the other side, in the thickness of the chimney, is a deep recess. Great changes seem to have taken place in this room, the north wall apparently being later than the rest, and perhaps not in its original position, while on the floor above it is entirely modern. The room over, known as the Tapestry Room, or sometimes Humphrey Chetham's room, is of the same dimensions, the walls being covered with original tapestry. This portion of the house being only of two stories, with the higher three-story buildings on two sides of it, is very much dwarfed in elevation, and this has necessitated the carrying up of the chimney-shaft to a great height (30 ft.) above the eaves of the gabled roof. The north wing contains the kitchen in the centre, with scullery and larder opening from it to the west, and the servants' hall at the east end, approached by a corridor along the south side, and from the outside by a one-story stone porch, apparently of 16th-century date, at the end. Old drawings, however, show the porch to have been two-storied at the beginning of the 19th century, and it is probable that in the rebuilding of 1835-44 it was pulled down and the present one erected from the old materials. The lower portion of the north elevation of the kitchen wing is little altered, preserving its original low mullioned windows, though the grotesque label terminations are modern. The new upper story, however, is of half-timber work like that in the front, and the gables facing west are slate hung. On the first floor of this wing great changes have taken place, the relative level of the rooms and passages has been falsified, and blind windows introduced, glazed on the outside. The house still contains some of the original 17th-century furniture, but the greater part was sold in 1890, and a bed belonging to Humphrey Chetham is now in the South Kensington Museum. A bell which used to hang on the exterior of the north-west corner of the tower was taken down in 1879, and is now at Westwood, Pendlebury. It bears the arms of Orrell with the initials W^ON, R^O, and the date 1587. The initials are clearly those of members of the Orrell family: William Orrell and his wife, and perhaps Richard Orrell.

At a short distance from the house to the east, on a prominence called Dove Hill, is a 17th-century watch tower or summer house of good design, 13 ft. by 13 ft. 8 in. square outside, with four stone gables with ornamental ball finials and central weather-vane, and to the south-east is a fine 17th-century barn with stone-slatted roof.

Birtenshaw at one time gave a name to the family which occupied it,³⁹ but Walmsley and Eger-

³⁸ The mullions of these two windows are square chamfered, those to the later windows having hollow chamfers.

³⁹ The old spelling is Birkenshaw. Adam de Birkenshaw in 1277 successfully claimed a messuage and half an ox-

gang of land against Alan de Birkenshaw; Assize R. 1235, m. 12 d. In the following year Richard son of Alan de Birken-



TURTON TOWER FROM THE SOUTH-EAST

ton⁴⁰ probably received theirs from their former owners. The Wood family was long resident in the township; pedigrees were recorded in 1613 and 1665.⁴¹ Another family, named Green, also appear among the freeholders in the 16th century.⁴² Several of the landowners of the district had small estates in Turton.⁴³ Birchwood gave a name to its ancient owners.⁴⁴ The names of John Horrocks⁴⁵ and John Yate⁴⁶ occur in the inquisitions.⁴⁷

The freeholders in 1600 were William Orrell, Ralph Green, Richard Wood, and — Walmsley.⁴⁸

The returns of 1788 show that the lands of Mordecai Greene paid more than half the tax; the other estates were small, those of John Orrell and the Rev. Thomas Rothwell being the most considerable.⁴⁹

The court leet records begin in 1737; the last court is said to have been held in 1850.⁵⁰

shaw claimed a similar tenement against Alan and his son Henry, and received seisin; Assize R. 1238, m. 34 d.

Sireda wife of Richard de Edgeworth failed in her claim for dower in a messuage and half oxgang in Turton, made in 1292 against John de Birkenshaw; Assize R. 408, m. 3. At the same time Henry son of Richard de Birkenshaw claimed common of pasture against Henry de Torbock and Ellen his wife; *ibid.* m. 62.

⁴⁰ The will of Ralph Egerton of Turton, 1702, mentions his grandsons Charles and Ralph Mainwaring; his son-in-law John Cross (of Over Darwen) was to have £15 a year during his imprisonment at Lancaster, and several children of John Cross are named; his granddaughter Elizabeth Bradshaw was 'well provided for.' A tuition bond for John Cross's children is dated 1706. See Abram, *Blackburn*, 504.

⁴¹ To the pedigree of 1613 (*Visit. Chet. Soc.* 49) are brief notes of some family charters. By one of these Henry de Huton granted to William son of Alexander de Subosco, with Agnes his daughter, land in the Wood, as in the charter of Godfrey de Bullinges. In 1345 Alexander del Wood was refoffed of land in Turton, with remainder to his son Henry and his issue by Margery his wife, daughter of Henry de Bradshaw. Roger son and heir of Alexander del Wood granted lands in Turton to Margery de Coldcotes.

Alexander del Wood was a defendant to a Turton pasture claim in 1285; Assize R. 1271, m. 12. He gave land in Sharples to Henry his son; *Var. Coll.* (*Hist. MSS. Com.*), ii, 13.

A pleading of 1560 gives the names of the following persons as having rights of common on Turton Moor: Christopher Horrocks, Thomas Asshaw, Roger Brownlow, Anthony Green, John Isherwood, Richard Wood, and Peter Worthington; *Ducatus Lanc.* (*Rec. Com.*), ii, 244, 246, printed in Scholes' *Supplement*, 18, 19.

John Wood died in 1619 holding two messuages and 60 acres of John Orrell, by 3s. rent. Richard, his son and heir, was over forty years of age; *Lancs. Inq. p.m.* (*Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.*), ii, 159.

See also Dugdale, *Visit.* (*Chet. Soc.*), 335.

These Woods were probably ancestors of Anthony A Wood, the Oxford historian, for his family had been friends of the Worthingtons of Blainscough, who had land in Turton.

Catherine Chetham was described as 'of the Wood' in Oct. 1671; Clowes D. She was the widow of George Chetham.

⁴² In 1505 a settlement was made of the estate of Ralph Green and Margaret his wife in Turton and Pleasington; the remainders were to their children James and Lettice, and to the right heirs of Margaret; *Final Conc.* iii, 157. Anthony Green had closes called Marled Earth and Over Meadow in 1532; *Duchy Plead.* (*Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.*), ii, 8, 9. In 1563 Anthony Green held lands in Turton of John Orrell, by 6d. rent and doing suit at the court of the manor; Scholes' *Supplement*, 20 (*Ducatus*, ii, 293). In 1569 he made a settlement of his lands in Turton, Westleigh, and Golborne; *Pal. of Lanc. Feet of F. bdlc.* 31, m. 91. His dispute with John Orrell was continued in 1572; *Pal. of Lanc. Plea R.* 232, m. 14.

Ralph Green died in 1610, holding a messuage and lands in Turton of William Orrell by 6d. rent; also lands in Westleigh and Golborne. Anthony, his son and heir, was over forty years of age; *Lancs. Inq. p.m.* (*Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.*), i, 193.

Among other names may be mentioned that of Howell, which occurs in 1332; *Exch. Lay Subs.* (*Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.*), 40. James Howell was pardoned an outlawry at the suit of Christopher Worthington in 1444; *Dep. Keeper's Rep.* xl, App. 538.

William del More of Kirkdale held land in Turton in 1409; *Lancs. Inq. p.m.* (*Chet. Soc.*), i, 93.

A settlement by John Tailor and Cecily his wife was made in 1415, with remainder to a bastard branch of the Bradshags of Haigh; *Final Conc.* iii, 73. There was a dispute in 1688 between Richard Taylor and John Parkinson respecting lands in Turton; *Excb. Dep.* (*Rec. Soc.*), 73.

⁴³ The Byrons of Clayton had land there in 1441; *Final Conc.* iii, 106. The Bartons of Smithills also; *ibid.* iii, 158. Lands in Turton continued to be reckoned among their possessions, but the tenure is not stated distinctly; e.g. *Lancs. Inq. p.m.* (*Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.*), i, 211. The Entwistles had land held of the Orrells in socage by a rent of 18d.; *Duchy of Lanc. Inq. p.m.* vii, no. 30. The Worthingtons of Blainscough also held lands of the Orrells in socage; *ibid.* vi, no. 52, &c.; *Lancs. Inq. p.m.* (*Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.*), ii, 173. Leonard Asshaw had lands in Turton held of William Orrell by 4d. rent; *Duchy of Lanc. Inq. p.m.* xvi, no. 11.

Sir James Harrington of Westleigh died

There are two ancient chapels in the CHURCH township, one at Turton itself, close to the eastern boundary, and the other at Walmsley, on the western border, to the north of the modern hamlet of Egerton. The free chapel of Turton was in 1523-4 in the gift of Ralph Orrell, and James Anderton was then incumbent.⁵¹ The ornaments remaining in 1552 were claimed by John Orrell as heirlooms.⁵² Arthur Pilkington was the priest in charge in 1542, 1548, and 1554; he was also there in 1563 and 1565, but was then 'decrepit' or 'sick,'⁵³ so that it is uncertain to what extent the chapel remained in use for a time; about 1610, however, it was 'well supplied with the ministry.'⁵⁴ Humphrey Chetham, on acquiring the manor, rebuilt the chapel in 1630, and bequeathed money for a small library; the books, chained to the shelves, are

in 1497 seised of land in Turton held by services unknown; *ibid.* iii, no. 40. It became the property of the Treshams — John Tresham having married Isabel, one of the co-heirs — and a sale or feoffment of it was made in 1571 by Thomas Tresham and Meriella his wife; *Pal. of Lanc. Feet of F. bdlc.* 33, m. 105. Alexander Rigby (1621) and Christopher Norris (1639) in the next century each had a small estate in Turton; the former held of John Orrell by a rent of 4d. — probably the old Ashaw estate; and the latter, of Humphrey Chetham by a rent of 6d.; *Duchy of Lanc. Inq. p.m.* xxv, no. 31; xxx, no. 36.

⁴⁴ Roger de Birchwood gave all his land in Turton to Robert son of Thomas de Longworth in 1297; Towneley MS. DD, no. 699. Roger's brother Henry is named.

The bounds of Birchwood began at Redclough Head. In 1381 Henry son of Henry de Birchwood made a feoffment of his estate; *ibid.* no. 720. These deeds were among the evidences of Livesey of Livesey.

⁴⁵ John Horrocks died 13 May 1592, holding two messuages, &c., of William Orrell in socage by a rent of 2s. 3d.; Christopher, his son and heir, was thirty-one years of age; *Duchy of Lanc. Inq. p.m.* xvi, no. 32.

⁴⁶ John Yate died at Yatebank 14 May 1632, holding of Edward Mosley $\frac{1}{2}$ acre called the Hollins, lately improved from the waste, by the three-hundredth part of a knight's fee. Anne Yate, his daughter and heir, was four months old, and Isabel his widow afterwards married — Osbaldeston; *ibid.* xxvii, no. 15. Sir Edward Osbaldeston in 1637 held an acre in Turton; *ibid.* xxvii, no. 15.

⁴⁷ Accounts of Whittle Tenement and the Batteridge will be found in Scholes, *Turton Documents*, 88, 105.

⁴⁸ *Misc.* (*Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.*), i, 246, 249-51.

⁴⁹ Land tax returns at Preston.

⁵⁰ Scholes, *Turton Tower*, 25, 40. Two volumes of the records are in the possession of Sir Lees Knowles, who has recently published them.

⁵¹ *Ch. Gds.* (*Chet. Soc.*), 25, quoting *Duchy of Lanc. Dep. Hen. VIII*, x, R. 7.

⁵² *Ibid.* 24.

⁵³ Visitation Lists at Chester. There was a dispute as to the road to the chapel about 1600; *Lancs. and Ches. Rec.* (*Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.*), ii, 288.

⁵⁴ *Hist. MSS. Com. Rep.* xiv, App. iv, 11.

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still there.⁵⁵ There was no endowment in 1650 beyond the interest on 20s.⁵⁶ Bishop Gastrell found an endowment of £4 14s. in existence, and a grant from Queen Anne's Bounty was secured in 1717. Mr. Chetham and his tenants gave about £30 a year. There was a chapel warden. The townships of Turton, Longworth, Edgeworth, Entwisle, and Quarlton were included in the chapelry.⁵⁷ Humphrey Chetham in 1746 left £1,000 for the chapel and school.⁵⁸ In consideration of their various benefactions the Chetham family obtained the patronage, and it has descended to Mr. Henry Seymour Hoare, as heir of Angelina Frances, one of the daughters and co-heirs of James Greene.⁵⁹ The net annual value of the benefice is £260. The church was rebuilt in 1779, and again in 1841.⁶⁰ The ecclesiastical parish was formed in 1837.

The following have been curates or vicars :—⁶¹

- oc. 1596 Gilbert Astley⁶²
- 1628 Richard Denton, B.A.
- oc. 1647 James Rigby⁶⁴
- 1648 Michael Briscoe⁶⁵
- 1650 James Livesey⁶⁶
- 1652 [Timothy] Smith⁶⁷
- oc. 1671 Richard Atherton⁶⁸
- oc. 1677 William Richardson⁶⁹
- James Chetham
- 1705 John Boardman (Brasenose Coll. Oxf.)⁷⁰
- oc. 1716 Henry Lawson, B.A.⁷¹ (St. John's Coll. Camb.)
- 1732 Samuel Stead, B.A. (Brasenose Coll. Oxf.)
- 1734 Robert Hargreaves, B.A.

- 1742 William Sunderland⁷²
- 1761 Amos Ogden,⁷³ LL.B. (Catherine Hall, Camb.)
- 1815 James Spencer⁷⁴
- 1859 James Ogden King Spencer⁷⁵
- 1879 John William Spencer,⁷⁶ M.A. (St. John's Coll. Camb.)
- 1900 James Odell Coleman⁷⁷
- 1904 James Platt, M.A. (Dur.)

Walmsley Chapel existed in 1532;⁷⁸ it had a bell and a few 'ornaments' in 1552.⁷⁹ Its fate for a century after the Reformation is unknown,⁸⁰ but in the time of the Commonwealth it was in use, being apparently worked with Turton, but having some separate endowments.⁸¹ In 1717 there were no services held beyond prayers and two sermons on one Sunday each month.⁸² The church was rebuilt nearly a mile to the south of the old site in 1839; it is called Christ Church. The ecclesiastical parish was formed in 1844.⁸³ The vicar of Bolton presents the incumbent. The benefice is worth £350 a year.

The following have been curates or vicars :—

- 1738 Thomas Whitehead, M.A.⁸⁴
- 1748 John Chisnall, M.A.⁸⁵ (St. John's Coll. Camb.)
- 1756 James Folds⁸⁶
- 1820 Lowther Grisdale⁸⁷
- 1848 John Richardson
- 1860 Ralph Calvert Williams Croft,⁸⁸ B.A. (T.C.D.)
- 1877 John Stott
- 1894 Walter Chetwynd Atkinson, M.A. (Keble Coll. Oxf.)

⁵⁵ Raines and Sutton, *Humphrey Chetham* (Chet. Soc.), i, 34, 202; *Old Lancs. Libraries* (Chet. Soc.), 57.

⁵⁶ *Commonw. Ch. Surv.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), 32. The commissioners recommended that it should be made a parish church. The chapels of Turton and Walmsley seem to have been worked as one at that time.

In 1665 it was reported that the chapel was in good repair, and had a Book of Common Prayer and a fair surplice. There was no settled minister, and no residence for one. There was no power to bury, marry, or christen at the chapel. None sent their children to be catechized or confirmed. There was a 'new school' and a master. Walmsley Chapel is not named in this report, which is among the Chester Consistory Court Records.

In a letter to Samuel Chetham in 1711 it is stated that the altar rails, &c., had been removed in the time of the Civil Wars, and had never been restored; Clowes D.

⁵⁷ *Notitia Cestr.* (Chet. Soc.), 22-5.

⁵⁸ *Ibid.* ii, 24 note.

⁵⁹ Scholes, *Turton Tower*, 34.

⁶⁰ Canon Raines in 1848 calls the church St. Bartholomew's; now it is St. Anne's. The *Directory* calls the old chapel St. Matthew's, and so does a prayer book in the warden's pew.

⁶¹ This list is largely taken from Mr. Earwaker's notes made in Chester Diocesan Registry, and from notes of Mr. Scholes.

⁶² He was curate in 1620 and 1622; *Misc.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), i, 54, 66.

⁶⁴ He exercised his ministry without the authority of the *Classis*, but desired to be ordained; Shaw, *Bury Classis* (Chet.

Soc.), 32, 40. He removed to Liverpool. Mr. Ingham was another candidate for the chapelry; *ibid.* 47.

⁶⁵ A 'godly and painful minister' put in by the Plundered Ministers' Committee, and 'outed by some of the chapelry that did not affect him'; *Commonw. Ch. Surv.* 32. See *Bury Classis*.

⁶⁶ 'A painful, godly, orthodox minister,' who had been elected 'by the unanimous consent of the congregation'; *ibid.* *Bury Classis*, 109. He was afterwards (1652) at Atherton, and then rector of Budworth, in Cheshire.

⁶⁷ *Ibid.* 132, 255; afterwards at Longridge.

⁶⁸ Visit. List at Chester.

⁶⁹ He appears in the Visitation Lists of 1677 and 1691. He was 'conformable' in 1689; *Hist. MSS. Com. Rep.* xiv, App. iv, 230.

⁷⁰ The Church P. at Chester begin here.

⁷¹ *Notitia Cestr.* ii, 23 note. He was also there in 1724.

⁷² Clowes D.

⁷³ Succeeded on the death of William Sunderland.

⁷⁴ Presented by G. M. Hoare on the death of A. Ogden. He was son-in-law of his predecessor.

⁷⁵ Presented by the same on the resignation of J. Spencer, who died in 1866.

⁷⁶ Presented by H. S. Hoare on the death of J. O. K. Spencer; he was a younger brother, and died in 1904.

⁷⁷ Previously vicar of St. Barnabas', and now of St. James's, Bolton.

⁷⁸ *Duchy Plead.* ii, 9.

⁷⁹ *Ch. Gds.* 24.

⁸⁰ Roger Harrocks is named as 'curate of Walmsley' in the Visitation List of 1563, but the entry is erased in 1565.

⁸¹ *Commonwealth Ch. Surv.* 32-3; the stock amounted to £60. An allowance of £40 was made by the Parliamentary Committee; *Plund. Mins. Accts.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), i, 76. Though ousted from Turton Mr. Briscoe continued to minister at Walmsley down to the Restoration; *ibid.* ii, 290; *Pal. Note Bk.* i, 96. He was ejected in 1662, and then settled in Liverpool; *Bury Classis*, ii, 218.

Oliver Heywood preached at Walmsley Chapel in 1670; Heywood's *Diaries*, i, 269.

In 1717 the endowment amounted to £5 13s. a year; some of the old stock had been lost. It was then served by the curate of Turton; *Notitia Cestr.* ii, 25-7.

⁸² *Ibid.* ii, 26 n.

⁸³ *Lond. Gaz.* 17 Dec. 1844.

⁸⁴ Church P. at Chester Dioc. Reg.

⁸⁵ Scholes and Pimblett, *Bolton*, 330.

He was also lecturer of Bolton Church, and moved to Westhoughton in 1755. He entered St. John's College, Cambridge in 1744, aged twenty, being described as son of John Chisnall of Welch Whittle; R. F. Scott, *Admissions St. John's College*, iii, 112.

⁸⁶ Scholes and Pimblett, *op. cit.* 331-6. He was lecturer of Bolton; also vicar of West Hythe in Kent (a sinecure). The long period of his incumbency and his eccentricities made 'Parson Folds' one of the most notable personages in the district. A collection of his *Sayings and Doings* was published by Joseph Dodson Greenhalgh in 1879; a portrait is prefixed. It is reported that the congregation at Walmsley being usually small, Parson Folds made it a rule not to preach unless there were seven persons present.

⁸⁷ First resident curate.

⁸⁸ Afterwards of Blackrod.

There is a mission church at Toppings, opened in 1897, and services are also held in the school at Eagley Bridge.

Schools at Turton and Walmsley existed in 1718.⁸⁹

The Wesleyan Methodists have chapels at Turton, Egerton, and Toppings or Birtenshaw.⁹⁰ There are Congregational chapels also at Turton and Egerton.⁹¹

At the latter village the old Nonconformist chapel, dating from 1713, is in the possession of the Unitarians.⁹²

The Roman Catholic Church of St. Aldhelm at Turton was opened in 1903.

EDGEWORTH

Eggewrthe, 1212; Egewurth, 1221; Egeword and Eggeword, 1292; Eggewrth, 1292, and usually; Eggeswrth, 1277, 1292.

Edgeworth village lies in the extreme southern corner of its township between Bradshaw Brook, here expanded artificially to form a reservoir, and Quarlton Brook. The ground from this point rises continuously from 690 ft. or less till over 1,250 ft. is reached on the border of Musbury, the watershed being the boundary between the parishes of Bolton and Bury. In the northern part of the township is Broadhead, and here the surface again rises from Bradshaw Brook until a height of 1,100 ft. is attained

at the boundary. The area is 2,924½ acres. The population of Edgeworth, Entwisle, and Quarlton was 2,518 in 1901.

The principal road is that from Bury to Blackburn, passing north-west through the western part of the township.

The land is chiefly in pasture. There is a cotton mill, and a stone quarry is worked.

The Children's Home, established in 1872, is situated high up on the hill-side, more than a mile to the north of Edgeworth village.

In 1898 the township or civil parish of Edgeworth was extended to include Entwisle and Quarlton also, and at the same time, for local government purposes, Edgeworth was added to the Turton Urban District.¹

There were thirty-eight hearths liable to be taxed in 1666, but no house had as many as six hearths.^{1a}

The manor of *EDGEWORTH* was *MANOR* in 1212 held of the king in thegnage by William de Radcliffe of Radcliffe; it then included Entwisle and Quarlton, and was assessed as one plough-land, the annual service being a rent of 10s.² Within a century it had been granted to the Traffords of Trafford,³ and was held by them as the twelfth part of a knight's fee. In 1589 it was sold to Nicholas Mosley,⁴ who in 1598 sold it to Richard Orrell and Alexander Bradshaw;⁵

⁸⁹ Gastrell, *Notitia*, i, 25, 27.

⁹⁰ Birtenshaw Chapel was opened in 1875.

⁹¹ The first Congregational chapel at Egerton (or Walmsley) was opened in 1812; there had been meetings in rooms for some time before, and to some extent the congregation represented the Nonconformists of 1662. The present church was built in 1873-4; Nightingale, *Lancs. Nonconformity*, iii, 64-9.

⁹² After the ejection of Mr. Briscoe the congregation at Walmsley seems to have had no regular nonconforming minister for many years. There is a tradition that at one time they had to endure some persecution, and met for worship secretly in Yarnsdale, on the northern boundary of the township. In 1706 they are said to have obtained a licence to hold meetings in Evan Dewhurst's kitchen, now the Globe Inn, but at the same time there is evidence that they used Walmsley Chapel. They built a chapel for themselves close at hand at Dimple in 1713. The congregation became Unitarian about forty years later; *ibid.* iii, 54-64.

¹ By the Bolton, Turton, and West-houghton Extension Act, 1898.

^{1a} Subs. R. Lancs. bdle. 250, no. 9.

² *Lancs. Inq. and Extents* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), i, 67. In 1221 Eugenia, the widow of William de Radcliffe, demanded dower in a plough-land in Edgeworth, and shortly afterwards she rendered 40d. to the king from her land in Salford Hundred, showing that the service due from Edgeworth was 10s.; *ibid.* 129; Curia Regis R. 78, m. 14d. In 1246 Eugenia de Radcliffe recovered 8 acres in Edgeworth against Jordan de Quickenlow, who could not be found; Assize R. 404, m. 3.

On partition Edgeworth seems to have been reckoned as half a plough-land, and Entwisle and Quarlton each 2 oxgangs of land.

³ The time and manner of the grant are unknown, but the Radcliffes did not

entirely yield up their interest in the manor, the Quarlton part being retained by them.

The sheriff was in 1295 ordered to inquire whether Henry de Trafford held 8 oxgangs, &c., in Edgeworth of Richard de Radcliffe by the service of ½d. and the eighth part of a knight's fee, as Richard asserted, or by the ½d. only as Henry said; De Banco R. 109, m. 22.

In 1276 and later Henry de Trafford had disputes with Henry de Lacy, Earl of Lincoln, arising probably out of the undefined boundary between Edgeworth and Tottington; Assize R. 405, m. 2; R. 1235, m. 11d.; R. 1265, m. 4d. A ditch having been made was thrown down by the earl's bailiffs, the moor lying between the two townships all animals could enter by the breaches in the ditch; Assize R. 1271, m. 12. In 1292 Richard de Radcliffe was the plaintiff in a claim against the earl respecting 50 acres of moor and moss, but withdrew; Assize R. 408, m. 61d. In the same year Edgeworth was included in a Trafford settlement; *Final Conc.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), i, 170.

William de Radcliffe was in 1312 summoned to answer Henry de Trafford respecting the seizure of a cow at Edgeworth, and in defence said that Henry formerly held the manor of one Richard son of Robert de Radcliffe by the service of ½d. a year, and the cow was taken because this rent was in arrears; De Banco R. 195, m. 268.

In 1324 Henry de Trafford held [part of] a plough-land in Edgeworth by a rent of 7s. 7d., William de Radcliffe holding the remainder by 2s. 6d.; *Lancs. Inq. and Extents*, ii, 104-5. The versions differ.

In 1346 it was returned that Henry de Trafford, Richard de Radcliffe and John de Entwisle held 2½ plough-lands in Edgeworth and Quarlton by the fourth part of a knight's fee, paying 2s. 6d. as castle ward; also that Henry de Trafford paid 7s. 6d. for the manor of Edgeworth

at the four terms; Add. MS. 32103, fol. 146.

Henry de Trafford died in 1395 holding two parts of a third of the manor of Edgeworth of the Duke of Lancaster by knight's service; *Lancs. Inq. p.m.* (Chet. Soc.), i, 63. His estate is called two parts of two parts of the manor in the inquisition after the death of his widow in 1421, when her third was stated to be worth 8s. 6d. a year clear; Towneley MS. DD, no. 1505. In another inquisition (1414) in Dods. MSS. cxxxi, it is called two parts of two parts of half the vill of Edgeworth, the service being knight's service, and the rent of 2d.

Sir John Trafford, who died in 1489, held two parts of the third part of the manor of Edgeworth by the sixteenth part of a knight's fee; the clear value was 10s.; Duchy of Lanc. Inq. p.m. iii, no. 85.

Sir Edmund Trafford, who died in 1533, held a third part of the manor by the third part of the fourth part of a knight's fee; *ibid.* vi, no. 20.

In the above the 'third part of the manor' probably means Edgeworth proper, as distinct from Entwisle and Quarlton.

Edmund Trafford, who died in 1563, held the manor of Edgeworth of the queen as of her Duchy of Lancaster by the third part of the fourth part of a knight's fee, and a rent of 8s. yearly; *ibid.* xi, no. 11.

⁴ Pal. of Lanc. Feet of F. bdle. 51, m. 115; the Trafford estate in Harwood and Bolton was included.

⁵ The purchasers in the same year, reciting the sale by Nicholas Mosley of London, complained that Giles Entwisle and others had wrongfully entered several tenements in the manor. James Shippobottom *alias* Nevill replied that about 1566 Edmund Trafford, then in possession of the manor, had for services done to his father consented to the marriage of the said James with Elizabeth, daughter of William Holden, ancient tenant of the

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shortly afterwards Edgeworth as a manor disappears from the records.⁶

Among the landowners named from time to time in pleadings, &c., are the Edgeworths,⁷ Bartons of Smithills,⁸ Asshawes,⁹ Entwises,¹⁰ and others.¹¹ The land was divided into a number of small tenements.¹²

At Whowell's Farm, near the northern boundary, dwelt the executioner of Lord Derby in 1651.¹³

The moor was inclosed in 1797.¹⁴

Church of England services are held in the school-room. The Wesleyan Methodists have a chapel, built in 1863. The Congregationalists' first chapel was erected in 1822, and replaced by the present one in 1867.¹⁵

ENTWISLE

Hennetwisle, 1212; Ennetwysel, 1278; Entwysel, Entwysil, 1292.

The greatest height in this township, about 1,080 ft., is reached at Soot Hill, near the centre of the northern boundary. To the east there is a valley, and then the ground rises again, reaching a similar height on the north-east boundary. From these points the ground slopes southward. The area is 1,668 acres. The population in 1901 was numbered with that of Edgeworth,

in which township Entwisle was merged by the Bolton, Turton, and Westhoughton Extension Act, 1898.

The Bury and Blackburn road crosses the eastern part of the township, passing through the hamlet called Wayoh Fold. A minor road goes west through the hamlets of Entwisle, Edgefold, and Cadshaw. Cranberry Moss lies in the north-west corner, and Aushaw in the north-east. Bradshaw Brook, which forms the southern boundary, has been transformed into a reservoir of the Bolton Water Works. The Lancashire and Yorkshire Company's Bolton and Blackburn line passes north through the centre of the township, and has a station called Entwisle; there is a long tunnel at the northern boundary, passing under Whittlestone Head.

The soil is mostly in pasture. There are calico print works, and bricks are made. There are also stone quarries.

There were thirty-six hearths to contribute to the hearth tax in 1666; Francis Norbury's house had the largest number, seven.¹

Two oxgangs in Edgeworth, or a fourth *MANOR* part of the manor, were by the father of the William de Radcliffe living in 1212 given to Robert de Entwisle in marriage with his daughter.² This was no doubt the township of *ENTWISLE*, but the 'manor' of Entwisle appears to have

message and lands in dispute, appertaining to which were rights of turbary and pasture on the waste and moors of Edgeworth; the tenement was to go to James and Elizabeth for life. Peter Horrocks, another defendant, also claimed under a grant by Sir Edmund Trafford. The purchasers replied that the manor had been conveyed free of all incumbrance; Duchy of Lanc. Plead. Eliz. clxxxiv, O, 5; clxxxix, O, 4.

A fine relating to the sale of the manor by Nicholas Mosley and his wife Elizabeth was made in 1600; Pal. of Lanc. Feet of F. bdle. 64, no. 194.

The purchasers appear to have sold large portions of it in parcels.

Richard Orrell at his death in 1624 held a message and lands in Edgeworth of the king by the two-hundredth part of a knight's fee. James Orrell, his son and heir, was seventeen years of age; *Lancs. Inq. p.m.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), iii, 419.

⁶ The 'manor of Edgeworth' is named in a recovery in 1786; Pal. of Lanc. Plea R. 643, m. 11 d.

⁷ Ellis son of Hugh de Edgeworth occurs in 1278; Assize R. 1265, m. 4 d.; and Richard de Edgeworth about the same time; Assize R. 1271, m. 12. William de Edgeworth was in 1292 nonsuited in a claim against Hugh son of Ellis de Edgeworth, concerning a tenement there; Assize R. 408, m. 58 d. Roger de Edgeworth contributed to the subsidy of 1332; *Exch. Lay Subs.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), 40.

Another ancient family was that of Quickenlow, already mentioned. They were perhaps of Quarlton, in which is Wickenlow. Edusa daughter of Geoffrey de Quickenlow in 1284 claimed 18 acres held by Henry de Trafford; she was the wife of Richard Tyder of Pemberton. It was proved that her father had enfeoffed one Henry son of Wenne of the land, so that it did not descend to Edusa; Assize R. 1265,

m. 21. In 1347 Robert son of Ellis de Quarlton, Richard de Greenollers, and Richard del Quickenlow were accused of breaking a close at Edgeworth and depasturing the grass there; De Banco R. 351, m. 109 d.

⁸ See the account of Quarlton, in which township all or the greater part of their estate seems to have been situated.

⁹ Leonard Asshawe of Flixton was in 1595 found to have held lands in Edgeworth of Edmund Trafford in socage; Duchy of Lanc. Inq. p.m. xvi, no. 11.

¹⁰ Ellis Bradshaw in 1544 purchased three messages, &c., in Edgeworth from George Entwisle; Pal. of Lanc. Feet of F. bdle. 12, m. 235. In 1573 Richard Entwisle purchased two messages and lands in the same place from Lawrence Bradshaw and Margaret his wife, and Ralph Entwisle purchased another; *ibid.* bdle. 35, m. 68, 77.

In 1594 a settlement was made of an estate in seven messages, various lands, a mine of stone, &c., by Alexander Entwisle and Alice his wife, Richard Entwisle and Margaret his wife, Giles Entwisle, Thomas Lowe *alias* Entwisle (bastard son of Edmund Entwisle) and Elizabeth his wife, Thomas Entwisle and Cecily his wife; *ibid.* bdle. 56, m. 71. Alexander Entwisle died 26 December 1602, holding two messages, &c., in Edgeworth and two messages, &c., in Musbury; Richard, his elder brother, had granted a message in the Broadhead to the use of the said Alexander and his heirs male, with reversion to Richard. Alexander's heir was a daughter Elizabeth, only two years old; Duchy of Lanc. Inq. p.m. xviii, no. 13.

Giles Entwisle died in 1620 holding a message and lands in Edgeworth of the king by knight's service; his son and heir Richard was forty years of age; *Lancs. Inq. p.m.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), ii, 195. Thomas Entwisle had a small tenement in Edgeworth, held of the king as the three-hundredth part of a

knight's fee, and by his will left it for life to William and Ralph Entwisle. He died in 1621; his widow Cecily survived him, and his heir was one Richard Entwisle, forty-four years of age; *ibid.* i, 225.

Ralph Entwisle died in 1615, leaving a son William as heir; he held land of the king by the two-hundredth part of a knight's fee; *ibid.* ii, 42.

¹¹ John Horrocks died 19 May 1637, holding lands of the king by the two-hundredth part of a knight's fee; Lawrence his son and heir was over twenty-two years of age; Towneley MS. C, 8, 13 (Chet. Lib.), fol. 501.

Adam Isherwood, who died 5 September 1634, also held lands of the king; his son Robert, the heir, was over forty years old; *ibid.* fol. 699a.

Deeds relating to several properties in Edgeworth—Higher Barn, Horrocks Fold, and Wheatshaw Croft—are printed in Jas. C. Scholes' *Turton Documents*, no. 44–51.

¹² The land tax return of 1797 shows that Thomas Fogg was the principal contributor; his lands paid about an eighth of the total.

¹³ *Local Glean. Lancs. and Ches.* i, 110; *Lancs. and Ches. Hist. and Gen. Notes*, ii, 119, 134.

¹⁴ *Lancs. and Ches. Rec.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), i, 56. The award is kept at the County Council Offices, Preston.

¹⁵ A cottage for services was taken in 1807 at Crown Point, Edgeworth Moor, then 'a very benighted and populous part,' and a church was formed in 1814. See Nightingale, *Lancs. Nonconf.* iii, 69–78; a view is given.

¹ Subs. R. Lancs. bdle. 250, no. 9.

² *Inq. and Extents* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), i, 67. The father's name is not known, but he may have been Henry de Radcliffe, witness to the Burscough charter in 1189; Farrer, *Lancs. Pipe R.* 350.

been more properly the portion held by the local family of the Hospitallers, who had land here from an early period.³

The Entwisle family can thus be traced back to the latter years of the 12th century, but in this case, as in others, no proper account can be given of it, owing to the lack of evidence.⁴ Anian Entwisle died in May 1442, having a fourth part of the fourth part of the manor of Edgeworth, held by the sixteenth part of a knight's fee and the service of 1s. 3d. a year; its clear value was 20s. He also held the manor of Entwisle of St. John of Jerusalem by the service of 12d. a year; its value was 100s.; also lands in Turton and Bolton. Ellis, his son and heir, was twenty-three years of age.⁵ Of the same family is supposed to have been the Sir Bertin Entwisle who fell fighting on the Lancastrian side at St. Albans, 1455.⁶

Edmund Entwisle died 8 July 1544, holding the manor of Entwisle of the king in socage by a rent of 12d. yearly (i.e. the Hospitallers' rent); messuages and lands in Entwisle and Edgeworth, of the king by the third part of the fourth part of a knight's fee and rent of 15d.; also lands in Turton, Bolton, Radcliffe,



THE HOSPITALLEERS.
Gules a cross argent.

and the Manchester district. George his son and heir was twenty-two years of age.⁷

George Entwisle in 1546 and 1551 made settlements of his estate in thirty or thirty-six messuages and various lands, largely moor and pasture, in Entwisle, Wayoh ('Wao'), Bolton, Chorlton, Rusholme, Ardwick, Withington, and Manchester.⁸ In the second case the estate, after one week, was to pass to Thurstan Tyldesley, his younger son, and his heirs.⁹



ENTWISLE. *Argent*
on a bend engrailed sable
three mullets of the field.



TYLDESLEY. *Argent*
three mole-hills proper.

The manor thus passed into the hands of the Tyldesleys of Morleys.¹⁰ The hall and lands in the township were sold by Edmund Tyldesley between 1657 and 1670 to a large number of persons,¹¹ and the history of the manor cannot be traced further.

³ The Hospitallers' lands in 'Edgeworth' are named in 1292 in the *Plac. de Quo Warr.* (Rec. Com.), 375. The term would include both Entwisle and Quarlton; in Edgeworth proper nothing seems to have been held by them.

The rental of c. 1540 states that the Hospitallers' 'manor of Entwisle' was held by the heirs of Ellis Entwisle by a rent of 12d.; Kuerden MSS. v, fol. 84.

⁴ Ellis son of Richard de Entwisle was in 1276 called upon to defend his title to 20 acres of wood in Edgeworth. He stated that his ancestors had held the pasture in severalty, and that his father had inclosed part of the common; Assize R. 405, m. 3 d.

Ellis de Entwisle in 1292 claimed that the Prior of the Hospital of St. John should acquit him of the service required by the Earl of Lancaster out of the free tenement in Entwisle and Edgeworth, of which the prior was mesne lord. The prior appeared, and Ellis was then unwilling to plead against him, and so the prior was acquitted; Assize R. 408, m. 56. Ellis again occurs in 1297; *Inq. and Extents*, i, 297.

In 1329 the Prior of the Hospitallers claimed from John de Entwisle the services due for a messuage and 40 acres in 'Turton'; De Banco R. 279, m. 180 d. John de Entwisle contributed to the subsidy in 1332; *Exch. Lay Subs.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), 40. He was tenant of the third part of the manor in 1346; Add. MS. 32103, fol. 46.

Ellis de Entwisle is mentioned in 1394, 1398, and 1407; *Lancs. Inq. p.m.* (Chet. Soc.), i, 57, 61, 65, 68; Towneley MS. RR, no. 1549; and an Ellis son of Ellis de Entwisle in 1410; *Final Conc.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), iii, 69. Edmund de Entwisle occurs in 1412; Towneley MS. RR, no. 1556.

In 1420 John de Entwisle and Margaret his wife had settled upon them lands in Withington, Manchester, and Chorlton, the wife's inheritance; *Final Conc.* (Rec.

Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), ii, 77. The trustees were Ellis de Entwisle and John de Lever. A brief note has been preserved of the inquisition after the death of John Entwisle, dated 1436; he held the manor of Entwisle of the Hospitallers by a rent of 12d.; Towneley MS. Lancs. Tenures, fol. 11. The writ of *Diem clausit extremum* was issued 23 Mar. 1435-6; *Dep. Keeper's Rep.* xxxii, App. 36.

⁵ Towneley MS. DD, no. 1478; 'the fourth part of the fourth part' may be an error of copying.

In 1444 and 1445 Margaret the widow of John Entwisle claimed dower in certain messuages, &c., in Entwisle, Turton, and Bolton, against Elizabeth, the widow of Anian Entwisle; the defence was that John had not been in seisin either at the time of his marriage or later; Pal. of Lanc. Plea R. 6, m. 126; R. 8, m. 116.

Ellis Entwisle occurs in 1473; *Mamecestre* (Chet. Soc.), iii, 482.

⁶ *Paston Letters* (ed. Gairdner), i, 333. There is a biography of him in Baines, *Lancs.* (ed. 1836), iii, 93-4. In 1446 Sir Bertin Entwisle was one of the trustees of Robert Catlow of Oswaldtwistle; Add. MS. 32104, no. 1156.

⁷ Duchy of Lanc. Inq. p.m. vii, no. 30.

⁸ Pal. of Lanc. Feet of F. bdle. 12, m. 305.

⁹ Ibid. bdle. 14, m. 247. See also *Lancs. and Ches. Rec.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), ii, 255.

¹⁰ Edward Tyldesley and Anne his wife in 1570 sold messuages and lands in Entwisle and Over Darwen to John Osbaldeston; Pal. of Lanc. Feet of F. bdle. 32, m. 48. He asserted in 1577 that Alexander and Richard Entwisle had wrongfully taken possession of parts of the manor of Entwisle and its lands which he had acquired from George Entwisle; but it was shown that Alexander's lands were at Broadhead [in Edgeworth], not parcel of the manor of Entwisle; Duchy of Lanc. Plead. Eliz. cv, T. 5.

Edward Tyldesley, being seised of the

hall of Entwisle and twenty-six messuages and lands in the township in 1586, granted them to feoffees for the use of the said Edward for life, then of Elizabeth, widow of Thomas Tyldesley for life, then of Edward, infant son and heir of Thomas. The rent payable for Entwisle was given as 10d.; Duchy of Lanc. Inq. p.m. xiv, no. 10.

Like Morleys, the manor descended to the famous Sir Thomas Tyldesley, slain at Wigan in 1651, and was claimed by the guardians of his son Edward, the whole estate having been sequestered by the Parliament; *Cal. Com. for Compounding*, iv, 2568.

¹¹ Sixty deeds relating to the sales and later course of the history, with notes, will be found in James C. Scholes' *Documentary Notes relating to the district of Turton* (Bolton, 1882). The hall was divided, and in 1657 the eastern part was sold to Roger Brandwood, and the western (including the room called the hall) to John Kay; no. 5, 54. By Kay's will of 1671 his daughter Jane, wife of Robert Norbury and afterwards of Nathan Walker, inherited his part of the hall; she in 1723 appears to have transferred it to a nephew, John Wood; no. 17, 18, 38. It afterwards came into the possession of the Kays of Turton, who, according to a pedigree inserted in the same work (p. 78), descended from Alexander, a brother of John Kay.

According to Canon Raines, Edward Tyldesley sold Entwisle property to Entwisle and Norbury in 1657, and they dispersed it among the tenants; *Notitia Cestr.* (Chet. Soc.), ii, 24. A similar sale to a large number of the tenants in 1670 seems to have ended the Tyldesleys' connexion with the district; Scholes, op. cit. no. 41.

Details of the descent of several other properties in Entwisle will be found in the work stated: Overhouse, Edge, Edge Foot, Lowerhouse or Crow trees, &c. Many field names are given: Paggas, Arma-graves, Aspsden field, Farnecar, &c.

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In 1808, however, John Brandwood paid £1 to Bamber Gascoyne, as lord of Much Woolton, for twenty years' rent known as St. John of Jerusalem's rent.¹² Of this family probably was derived James Brandwood, born in 1739, son of John Brandwood of New House, Entwisle, who joined the Society of Friends and achieved some distinction among them. He died in 1826.¹³

Entwisle Hall, a two-story stone-built house standing on a high situation about 1½ miles north of Turton Tower, was described by Camden¹⁴ as a 'proper fair house,' but this probably refers to an older building than the present one, which seems to have been erected in the first half of the 17th century. It has a long front facing south and is of the type of plan having a central hall and projecting end wings; but has a further east wing with large stone chimney and end gable. The roof of the main portion of the building has been covered in modern times with blue slates, but the eastern end retains its ancient grey stone slates and stone coping and balls to the end gable; the two gables facing south are quite plain. The windows at this end too are the original ones, with stone mullions and hood-moulds, but those of the rest of the house have been mutilated and done away with altogether, and smaller modern windows inserted, though the hood-mould of a former long low window still remains in the centre part of the house.

The building is divided into three tenements and seems to have been so since the middle of the 17th century. A deed for the transfer of the middle part of Entwisle Hall to John Kay in 1657 speaks of 'all that capital Messuage or Manor House commonly known by the name of Entwisle Hall, and the demesne lands thereunto belonging, That is to witt, the Room called the Hall, containing three bays of buildings or thereabouts, standing and being betwixt the parlour and the kitchen, with all the chambers and rooms over the same room called the Hall.' Mention is also made of the 'out lleinge adjoining to the Hall on the north side,' and of the 'court or yard lying on the south side of the Hall.' Another deed of the same year referring to the sale of the east end of the house to Roger Brandwood refers to it as 'the kitchen containing four bays in length with the chambers and rooms over,' and gives Brandwood the liberty 'to pass and repass through the fold or yard on the south side of the hall and parlour unto and from the kitchen.'

The building still fairly well corresponds with these descriptions. The middle part, or hall, seems always

to have been of two stories, and probably the house as described in 1657 had been lately rebuilt. The court on the south side appears to have been a yard only as at present. The barn now on the south side of the house was erected in 1720, which date it bears, together with the initials I R B M, probably those of James and Roger Brandwood and Mary, the wife of James.¹⁵ The Brandwoods also appear to have restored their end of the house in the 18th century, and later unimportant additions have been made to the building on the north and west sides.

In 1826, during the days of industrial distress and starvation, the old kitchen and other apartments on the ground floor at the east end, were used as a 'dow-house,' and about the same time the rooms over the hall, most of which retain their oak floors, were converted into weaving places to find employment for those out of work.¹⁶

A Houghton family had some estate in the township.¹⁷

The Wesleyan Methodists have a Sunday service at Entwisle.

QUARLTON

Quernedon, 1301; Querndone, 1302; Quordone, 1309. Quarndon or Quarnton was the usual spelling till modern times.

This boundary township on the hill-side has an area of 798 acres. The hamlet of Quarlton lies near the western border at a height of about 650 ft. above the sea; the ground rises rapidly to the north-east, over 1,250 ft. being attained at the boundary. The population was in 1901 included in Edgeworth.

Wickenlow is in the northern part of the township, and Walves in the south-eastern.

The road from Bury to Blackburn crosses the western corner of the township.

There are old-established calico-printing works on the border of Turton. The land is chiefly in pasture.

As a township Quarlton was joined to Edgeworth in 1898, and so ceased to exist.¹

In 1666 the houses in Quarlton were few and small; none had more than two hearths liable to the tax, and the whole number for the township was only twenty-one.^{1a}

The manor of *QUARLTON* appears *MANOR* to have been the two oxgangs of land in Edgeworth which the Radcliffes reserved on granting the main portion to the Traffords.² It

¹² The receipt is in the possession of Sir Lees Knowles, bart., who, according to the pedigree in Baines, *Lancs.* (ed. Croston), iii, 223, is a descendant of Andrew Knowles of Quarlton and Elizabeth his wife, daughter of a John Brandwood of Entwisle; she died in 1757, aged twenty-six.

The descent of the Brandwood moiety of the hall and its demesne lands is traced by Mr. Scholes, op. cit. no. 54, 56-7. Roger Brandwood, the purchaser, was succeeded in 1678 by his second son Roger, and he in 1707 by his son James, who died in 1711. His first and second sons, James (died 1715) and Roger (died 1761), followed; and the latter's daughter Anne carried it by marriage to Christopher Baron. Their son Roger Baron became bankrupt in 1785, and Roger Hamer purchased it in 1786. He held it till 1841, when it

passed to his son Richard (died 1849), and to the latter's daughter Elizabeth, wife of Henry Field Fisher. It was sold in 1853 to William Barlow, again in 1854 to James Winder, and in 1857 to John Barlow, nephew of William; he died in 1870 and his executors held it in 1882. A pedigree of the Barlow family is given; op. cit. 118.

A settlement of thirty messuages, water-mill, lands, &c., in Entwisle, Edgeworth, Sharples, and Bolton, was made in 1762 by Christopher Baron and Anne his wife; Pal. of Lanc. Feet of F. bdl. 367, m. 39.

John Brandwood in 1779 paid a duchy rent of 1s. 3d. for Entwisle Hall; Duchy of Lanc. Rentals, 14/25.

James Brandwood of Charnock Richard, and formerly of Entwisle Hall, in 1762 left £100 to the poor stock; *End. Char. Rep. for Bolton Parish*, 1904, p. 67.

¹³ A biography of him was compiled by

James C. Scholes, and published in 1882. He is in *Dict. Nat. Biog.*

¹⁴ *Britannia* (ed. 1697), 746.

¹⁵ J. C. Scholes, *Documentary Notes relating to the district of Turton*, 1882.

¹⁶ *Ibid.*

¹⁷ *Final Conc.* iii, 146; *Exch. Deps.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), 34.

¹ By the Bolton, Turton, &c. Extension Act, 1898.

^{1a} Subs. R. Lancs. bdl. 250, no. 9.

² See the account of Edgeworth.

In an extent of 1324 it is stated that William de Radcliffe held Edgeworth by the service of 2s. 6d.; *Lancs. Ing. and Extents* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), ii, 105. The service is that due for a fourth part of the whole, i.e. for two oxgangs.

Roger de Radcliffe made a claim against Richard de Radcliffe in 1301 and 1302 respecting lands in Quarlton, but did not

afterwards came into the hands of the Radcliffes of Smithills, and their successors, the Bartons,³ and was sold in 1723 by Lord Fauconberg.⁴

The Hospitallers had land in Quarlton from an early date; and this was occupied by the Smithills family.⁵

Mrs. Julia Wright of Mottram Hall near Macclesfield is now said to hold the manor. She inherited it from her father the Rev. Henry Wright, on his death resuming her maiden name. She married the late Capt. J. F. D'A. Street.⁶

Ellis de Quarlton contributed to the subsidy in 1332.⁷ A Warburton family appears in the 16th and 17th centuries.⁸

LONGWORTH

Longeworthe, 1254; Lunggewrthe, 1278; Longeworth, 1290.

Longworth occupies the south-western slope of Turton Moor and the tongue of lower land to the south-east, between the Longworth and Delph Brooks. In the latter part of the township the hall is situated, but there is no village nor any considerable hamlet

within the boundary. The area is 1,654 acres. The population was in 1901 numbered with that of Western Turton.

A road from Egerton in Turton passes along near the south-western border. The ancient road from Blackburn to Bolton through Tockholes crossed the township.

The land is chiefly pasture. There is a quarry on the hill, but a cotton mill near the southern corner has lately been demolished by the Bolton Corporation in connexion with their water supply.

For local government the township was in 1898 joined to Turton, ceasing to have a separate existence.¹

No house in the township had more than two hearths in 1666, except Thomas Lacy's, which had seven. The total was 21.^{1a}

LONGWORTH was held of the lords MANOR of Manchester as 2 oxgangs² of land by a family or families which assumed the local surname, and continued there down to the middle of the 17th century. Apart from grants made by Matthew son of Siward de Longworth to the abbey of Cockersand about the beginning of the 13th century³ there is little to be recorded of the family,⁴ though

prosecute it; Assize R. 1321, m. 9; R. 418, m. 12 d.

In 1304 Richard de Radcliffe of Radcliffe had a grant of free warren in Quarlton; Charter R. 97 (32 Edw. I), m. 2, no. 17.

The manor of Quarlton is named in 1309 among the Radcliffe estates; *Final Conc.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), ii, 5.

In 1340 Richard de Radcliffe claimed a messuage, &c., in 'Edgeworth next Turton' against William son of William de Radcliffe, and recovered by default; De Banco R. 321, m. 305; R. 323, m. 198.

A pleading of 1358 gives some particulars, from which it appears that the Traffords had an interest in Quarlton, which is probably the 'third part of the manor of Edgeworth' in dispute. William son and heir of Robert de Radcliffe demanded that third part against Richard son of William de Radcliffe, it having been given by Sir Richard de Trafford to Robert de Radcliffe in free marriage with Anabil his daughter in the time of Edward I; from them it descended to Richard as son and heir, then to Robert as son and heir, and then to the plaintiff. The jury decided in favour of the plaintiff; Assize R. 438, m. 7 d. The plaintiff seems to be the head of the Smithills family, and the defendant the head of the parent Radcliffe stock.

⁵ The preceding note gives the clue to the descent.

Lands in Quarlton (or in Edgeworth) are regularly mentioned in the Radcliffe and Barton inquisitions, but are usually said to be held of the Hospitallers. In that after the death (1417) of Margery widow of Sir Ralph de Radcliffe, however, her dower in 'three parts of the manor of Edgeworth,' was stated to be held of the king as of his Duchy of Lancaster by knight's service and a rent of 2s. 6d.; *Lancs. Inq. p.m.* (Chet. Soc.), i, 127. Also in that of John Barton in 1517, the Edgeworth lands are stated to be held of the king; Duchy of Lanc. *Inq. p.m.* v, no. 52.

⁴ Picope MSS. (Chet. Lib.), iii, fol. 220, from Roll 8 of Geo. I at Preston.

³ Ralph de Radcliffe in 1406 was found to have held three messuages in Edge-

worth of the Hospitallers by a rent of 16d.; the clear annual value was 100s.; Towneley MS. DD, no. 1504.

The Hospitallers' rental of c. 1540 shows that Andrew Barton paid 16d. for the lordship of Quarlton; Kuerden MSS. v, fol. 84. In his inquisition, however, the rent is given as 2s. 2d.; Duchy of Lanc. *Inq. p.m.* ix, no. 27. This is repeated later, e.g. *Lancs. Inq. p.m.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), i, 211.

⁶ See pedigree in Earwaker's *East Ches.* ii, 353. In 1797 the lands of H. O. Wright contributed over a third of the land tax.

There is in Mrs. Wright's possession an interesting estate plan, endorsed 'The Plan of Quarnton belonging to the right worshipful Sir Thomas Barton of Smithills, knight. Taken by William Senior, Professor of the Mathematics. Anno Domini, 1620;' information of Sir Lees Knowles, who has given a copy to the British Museum.

⁷ *Exc. Lay Subs.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), 41.

⁸ Thomas Warburton the elder and Ellen his wife in 1558 made a settlement of four messuages and lands in Edgeworth, Quarlton, and Butterworth; Pal. of Lanc. Feet of F. bde. 19, m. 23.

Thomas Warburton, who died 31 May 1634, at Stubbins, held two messuages, &c., in Quarlton in Edgeworth of Sir Thomas Barton, and other lands; Francis, his son and heir, was fifty-seven years of age; Duchy of Lanc. *Inq. p.m.* xxx, no. 93. Hannah, a daughter of Thomas Warburton, is said to have married Robert Knowles of Quarlton; Baines, *Lancs.* (ed. Croston), iii, 222.

Richard Knowles of Quarlton occurs in 1583; Pal. of Lanc. Plea R. 252, m. 12.

¹ By the Bolton, Turton, &c., Extension Act, 1898.

^{1a} Subs. R. Lancs. bde. 250, no. 9.

² It was in 1322 in the upper bailiwick of the barony, and contributed to the maintenance of the foresters of Horwich; *Mamecestre* (Chet. Soc.), ii, 374, 377.

³ The land was in Award Hill ridding, the bounds beginning at an oak marked with a cross which grew by the street in the Rakes, going down to the great water, then up as far as the clough, and up the

clough to the hill, and so back to the oak. Quitclaims from Richard son of Roger de Ordseshaw (to William de Ashworth), and from William son of Adam de Ashworth accompanied the charter. For the latter quitclaim the canons paid 2 marks; W. Farrer, *Cockersand Chartul.* (Chet. Soc.), ii, 704. Hereward, Abbot of Cockersand, afterwards granted this to Roger son of Ughtred and his heirs at a rent of 12d. a year, and $\frac{1}{2}$ mark as relief; *ibid.* ii, 706.

The same benefactor also gave an acre formerly occupied by Geoffrey de Manchester, with various easements including leave to cut hay outside Acargarth; *ibid.* ii, 705.

The Cockersand rentals of 1451, 1461, 1501, and 1537 show that Thomas Longworth was tenant of two parcels (each 12d. rent) in those years; *ibid.* iv, 1238, 1241. In 1501 the heir of Sir James Harrington held a tenement called Kirkland at 6d. rent; *ibid.* Isabel Dame Harrington was in 1519 found to have held a messuage and land in Longworth of the Abbot of Cockersand in socage; Duchy of Lanc. *Inq. p.m.* v, no. 2. Some or all of the abbey lands were by Queen Mary granted to Manchester Collegiate Church or the Savoy Hospital; Pat. 3 & 4 Phil. and Mary, pt. xi; 4 & 5 Phil. and Mary, pt. xv.

⁴ Hugh de Longworth granted land in the township to William de Worthington; Kuerden MSS. iii, W, 27.

In 1276 John son of Hugh de Longworth, Ellen his wife, &c., were accused of depriving Robert de Wytefield and Lettice his wife of 3 acres of moor, and the plaintiffs' claim was admitted; Assize R. 405, m. 4 d.

John de Longworth in 1288 successfully asserted his right to 100 acres of moor in Longworth which had been occupied by Alexander de Cuerdale, Richard de Orymeshaw and others, who asserted that the land was in Darwen; Assize R. 1277, m. 32a d.

Thomas de Longworth died 8 August 1444, holding six messuages, 24 acres of land, 40 acres of meadow, &c., in Longworth, of Sir Nicholas Longford as of his manor of Withington by knight's service and a rent of 9 $\frac{1}{2}$ d.; he also held lands in Thornton and Bolton-le-Moors. The

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pedigrees were entered at the heralds' visitations in 1567⁵ and 1613.⁶ Christopher Longworth died in 1608, holding various messuages and lands in Longworth, including a water-mill, of Rowland Mosley as of his manor of Withington by knight's service and 9½d. rent. He also held lands in Bolton. Thomas his son and heir was twenty-three years of age.⁷ Thomas Longworth and Dorothy his wife made a settlement of the manor of Longworth and lands there and in Bolton in 1632.⁸ Soon afterwards, however, the manor appears to have been sold—probably to Lacy, who recorded a pedigree in 1664⁹—and in 1738 it is named in a settlement of the estates of William Hulton of Over Hulton.¹⁰ It afterwards descended regularly in this family,¹¹ but in 1907 was purchased by the Corporation of Bolton in connexion with the town's water supply. The Delph reservoir is now being formed in Longworth.

The Radcliffes of Radcliffe in 1309 drew a rent from Longworth.¹² The freeholders in 1600 were Christopher Longworth and James Worthington.¹³



LONGWORTH of Longworth. *Argent three dragons' heads couped sable.*

RIVINGTON

Rowinton, Rawinton, Revington, 1202; Ruhwinton, 1212; Riuiton, 1226; Rowynton, Rouynton, 1278 and common; Roynton, 1332; Rouyngton, 1400; Revyngton, Ryvington, xvi cent.

The township occupies the western and northern slopes of Winter Hill, which rises to the height of 1,498 ft. near the meeting-place of the boundaries of Rivington, Horwich, Halliwell, and Sharples. A spur of this hill shoots out westward and then southward, terminating at the Pike or Peak, 1,158 ft. high; from this the ground slopes rapidly to the west and south, and more gently to the south-east. On the Pike is a

tower built in 1733, and said to mark the position of an older beacon.¹ Fine views are obtained from this point. The western boundary is about 3 miles from north to south, and is formed by the reservoirs of the Liverpool Waterworks, begun in 1847, and completed ten years later.² The area of the township is 2,768 acres.³ The population in 1901 numbered 421.

The little village of Rivington, with its church and chapel, lies near the embankment separating the upper and lower reservoirs; the hall is further to the east. A large part of the hill-side, from the village to the southern boundary, has been formed into a park, which was in 1904 presented to the corporation of Bolton by Mr. W. H. Lever, the present lord of the manor.⁴

The principal road is that along the foot of the hill from Horwich to the village, where it is crossed by a road from Anderton over the embankment and eastward to Belmont and Bolton. There are some other old roads, and new ones have been formed in connexion with the great park.

The River Douglas rises on Winter Hill and flows south-west, forming part of the southern boundary; while the Yarrow, rising on the same hill, forms the northern boundary.

There were calico-printing works at Knoll.^{5a} Veins of lead and calamine were formerly worked.^{6a} The soil is clayey, with subsoil of gravel, and grass is the chief crop.

On Noon Hill is an ancient mound.

The township is governed by a parish council.

There were 62 hearths in this township liable to the tax in 1666, but no house had as many as six hearths in it.^{7a}

The manor of RIVINGTON in 1212 MANOR was held of the king in thegnage by the Pilkingtons of Pilkington; it was assessed as 6 oxgangs of land, and a rent of 10s. was paid.^{8a} About the end of the 13th century an eighth part was acquired by the Hulton family, so that in 1324 Roger de Pilkington held seven-eighths of the manor at a rent of 8s. 9d., and Richard de Hulton held the other eighth by 1s. 3d.^{9a} This partition appears again in

heir was his grandson Thomas (son of Nicholas) Longworth, who was of full age when the inquisition was taken in 1448; Lancs. Rec. Inq. p.m. no. 36, 37a.

Lettice widow of Thomas Longworth in 1446 claimed dower in six messuages and various lands in Longworth, Bolton, and Thornton-in-Sefton against Thomas Longworth of Longworth; Pal. of Lanc. Plea R. 9, m. 18b.

An arbitration was agreed on in 1462 respecting lands in Longworth within the vill of Withington between Robert and Peter Longhals on one side and on the other Richard Southworth, John Bradshaw and Elizabeth his wife, Thomas Longworth and others; the lands had lately belonged to one Thomas Longworth; Kuerden fol. MS., P 316, no. 676.

There was a dispute in 1530 between Ralph Orrell of Turton and others and Thomas Longworth (or his heir) concerning the common pasture called Longworth Moor, and a great waste or pasture called Turton Moss; Pal. of Lanc. Sessional Papers, Lent, 21 Hen. VIII. A little later Anthony Green claimed a right of way in Longworth and Turton against

Thomas Longworth; *Duchy Plead.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), ii, 8.

⁵ Chet. Soc. p. 23. It begins with Thomas Longworth, and proceeds:—s. George—s. Thomas,—s. George, living 1567—sons Thomas, Alexander, Christopher, Richard and five daughters.

⁶ Chet. Soc. p. 40. It begins with the George living in 1567, whose will was proved in 1596:—s. Christopher,—s. Thomas, living 1613, whose wife was Dorothy Hudleston.

⁷ *Lanc. Inq. p.m.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), i, 115. The dependence of Longworth on Withington immediately has received evidence from a deed of 1462 quoted above.

⁸ Pal. of Lanc. Feet of F. bdl. 119, no. 35.

⁹ Dugdale, *Visit.* (Chet. Soc.), 171; Thomas Lacy, the first of Longworth, had married a daughter of Adam Hulton of Hulton, who may then have been the owner.

¹⁰ Pal. of Lanc. Feet of F. bdl. 321, m. 3.

¹¹ See the account of Over Hulton. William Hulton appears to have been sole proprietor in 1794 and 1799; Land tax returns at Preston.

¹² *Final Conc.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), ii, 5. Henry de Trafford seems to have been their tenant; De Banco R. 179, m. 206.

¹³ *Misc.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), i, 247.

¹ The 'beacon upon Rivington Hill' is mentioned in 1591; *Hist. MSS. Com. Rep.* xiv, App. iv, 603.

² W. F. Irvine, *Rivington*, 149–53. The portion of the reservoirs and filter beds within the township occupies about 275 acres.

³ The 1901 *Census Rep.* gives 2,771, including 218 of inland water.

⁴ Mr. Lever's gift also includes the beacon tower on the Pike and land around it.

^{5a} Baines, *Lancs. Dir.* 1825, ii, 670.

^{6a} Lewis, *Topog. Dict.*, ed. 1831.

^{7a} Subs. R. Lancs. bdl. 250, no. 9.

^{8a} *Lancs. Inq. and Extents* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), i, 67. In this account of the township great help has been derived from Mr. W. Fergusson Irvine's *Hist. of Rivington* (1904), and Lieut.-Col. J. Pilkington's *Hist. of the Pilkington Family* (1894), and the authors' further aid.

^{9a} Dods. MSS. cxxx, fol. 37b.

1346¹⁰ and 1445.¹¹ From this time the descent of the manor cannot be traced satisfactorily. After the forfeiture by the Pilkingtons of Rivington in 1485 the thegnage rents appear to have been collected directly from the tenants in possession,¹² and at the beginning of the 17th century five-eighths was held by the Pilkingtons of Rivington,¹³ a fourth part by the Lathoms of Irlam,¹⁴ and the other eighth by the Shaws of Heath Charnock.¹⁵ Even in the 14th century a fourth part was held by the Westleigh and Birkenhead families,¹⁶ and descended to the Birkenheads¹⁷ and Chisnalls¹⁸ in the 16th century, and to the Hamerton's¹⁹ or Lathoms.^{19a}

The principal local family was that just named—the Pilkingtons of Rivington.²⁰ In 1202 Alexander de Pilkington, William his brother, and Alice his sister, secured from Thomas de Rivington a release of his right in 2½ oxgangs in Rivington and Worsthorpe, all the parties claiming by descent; Thomas, however, received the oxgang in Worsthorpe, the Pilkingtons retaining the land in Rivington, which was a fourth

part of the manor.²¹ At the same time Henry de Pilkington released to Alexander his claim to 3 oxgangs of land in the townships named.²² In 1212 Alexander de Pilkington, the head of the family, held the manor of the king, and the sons of his uncle or stepfather held the land of him.²³ It is clear, therefore, that the land was much divided. Nothing is known of it for the greater part of a century,²⁴ but then another Alexander de Pilkington is found purchasing lands²⁵ in Rivington, apparently as an estate for his younger son Richard,²⁶ who settled there as the immediate lord of the place, or at least of the seven-eighths held by the Pilkingtons. Richard married Ellen, daughter of William de Anderton, who had a share of Rivington from her father;²⁷ she was living in 1301,²⁸



PILKINGTON. *Argent a cross fleury voided gules.*

¹⁰ Add. MS. 32103, fol. 146b; in addition to the 10s. rent, pature and a double rent for relief were paid. Roger de Pilkington and John de Hulton were the tenants.

¹¹ Duchy of Lanc. Knights' Fees, 2/20; Sir John Pilkington and James Hulton were the holders.

The Hulton share descended in the Farnworth branch of the family, but is not mentioned in any of their inquiries, though rents in Rivington, of which no particulars are given, are named among the possessions of William Hulton of Farnworth as late as 1556; Duchy of Lanc. Inq. p.m. x, no. 32.

¹² There is no indication that this part of the Pilkington lordships was granted to the Earl of Derby.

¹³ *Lancs. Inq. p.m.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), i, 153.

¹⁴ Towneley MS. C 8, 13 (Chet. Lib.), fol. 755; the inquiry after the death of Edmund Lathom, 1640, in which it is stated that George his grandfather had, among other properties, held a fourth part of Rivington of the Crown, and made a settlement in 1570.

George Lathom and Elizabeth Lathom, widow, were engaged in suits with Richard Pilkington and others in 1549 and 1550, respecting Moldesfield and land in Rivington; *Ducatus Lanc.* (Rec. Com.), i, 240, 242, 243, 286.

In Towneley MS. GG these are described as George Lathom of Huyton and Elizabeth his wife; no. 1721, 1836. Earlier (1486) Edmund Lathom of Riding Chapel occurs; no. 1965, 1966. Hye-furth House at Dene Head was part of the Lathom estate; *ibid.* no. 1988. The disputes went on until 1614, when Thomas Lathom son of George received an allotment of 50 acres in satisfaction of his claims on the waste; Irvine, *Rivington*, 30-4.

¹⁵ *Lancs. Inq. p.m.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), i, 28. John Shaw was defendant in Rivington cases in 1507, 1528, and again in 1545; *Ducatus Lanc.* (Rec. Com.), ii, 1; i, 201, 178. It seems natural to assume that this was the eighth part previously held by the Hultons. Robert Shaw, son and heir of the Thomas Shaw whose inquiry has just been referred to, made a settlement of the eighth part of the manor of Rivington and other lands in 1606; Pal. of Lanc.

Feet of F. bdl. 70, no. 68. In 1765 Holt Leigh acquired lands in Rivington, Anglezarke, &c., from Baxter Roscow and Helen his wife, and Elizabeth Shaw, widow; *ibid.* bdl. 373, m. 122.

¹⁶ In 1347 Roger de Westleigh of Irlam, Emma his wife, and Adam de Birkhead or Birkenhead of Wigan claimed the fourth part of two messuages, &c., in Rivington against Robert de Rivington, Richard his son, and others; Assize R. 1435, m. 18. Three years earlier Roger son of Roger de Westleigh and Emma his wife had made a settlement of the fifth part of the manor of Rivington and the fourth part of an oxgang in Barton-on-Irwell in favour of their son Richard, whose wife's name was Ellen; *Final Conc.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), ii, 121. A settlement in 1448 probably refers to the same estate; *ibid.* iii, 114.

¹⁷ Henry Birkhead of Wigan held a messuage and lands in Rivington of Richard Pilkington by a rent of 2d.; his heir in 1513 was Joan, sister of Richard son of Hugh son of Richard son of the said Henry, and she was four years of age; Duchy of Lanc. Inq. p.m. iv, no. 26. By another inquiry it was found that her father Hugh, who died in 1514 (*sic*), held the same estate in Rivington of the king as of his Duchy of Lancaster by the rent of 7½d., and William Birkhead, uncle of Hugh, was the occupier; *ibid.* iv, no. 87. Yet another inquiry was held in which the tenure of the king by a rent of 7½d. was confirmed, and some further particulars were recorded; Hugh is now stated to have died 16 Jan. 1510-11; *ibid.* v, no. 23. See further in the account of Wigan.

¹⁸ Richard Chisnall died in 1587 holding six messuages, &c., in Rivington of the queen as of her manor of Salford, in socage by a rent of 7½d.; *ibid.* xiv, no. 39. Richard Chisnall had been plaintiff in several Rivington suits in preceding years; *Ducatus Lanc.* (Rec. Com.), iii, 109, 125, 142, 157. John Chisnall, his nephew and heir, was defendant in 1588; *ibid.* iii, 226. The estate in Rivington was in 1635 stated to be held of the Crown by a rent of 16½d.; Duchy of Lanc. Inq. p.m. xxviii, no. 8.

¹⁹ The Chisnall estates descended to the Hamertons; James Hamerton was a vouchee in a recovery in 1772; Pal. of Lanc. Plea R. 615, m. 11. A little

later the Rivington lands were sold to the Andrews family.

^{19a} The Lathom estates in Rivington and elsewhere seem to have been inherited from the Westleigh family, though the share of Rivington is called a fourth part. The fractions are uncertain.

²⁰ See Pilkington, *Pilkington Family*, 34, &c.

²¹ *Final Conc.* i, 18.

²² *Ibid.* i, 22.

²³ *Lancs. Inq. and Extents*, i, 67.

²⁴ A collection of Rivington charters is preserved in Towneley MS. GG (Add. MS. 32107), no. 1657-2078.

²⁵ Richard son of Richard de Gamelsley granted to his lord, Alexander de Pilkington, his claim in the holding of Roger de Broadhurst; Towneley MS. GG, no. 1703, 1873. William son of Roger de Broadhurst also granted to Alexander his lord all his rights in lands and services in Rivington; *ibid.* no. 1925. William son of Richard de Rivington gave to the same Alexander the land he had received from Ellis son of Simon; and Ellen and Maud, daughters of John son of Richard son of William de Rivington, gave a release of their claim on the lands of their uncle William; and in 1279 Roger son of Richard de Rivington also granted a release; *ibid.* no. 2066, 2069, 2070.

²⁶ *Ibid.* no. 1658. The seal bore the Pilkington cross.

²⁷ *Ibid.* no. 1657, 1962; the 'remainder' was to John, another son of Alexander de Pilkington, in free marriage with Margery, another daughter of William de Anderton. Alice widow of Adam son of William de Anderton released her claim to dower in Rivington to Richard de Pilkington; no. 1661. Roger de Broadhurst in 1297 entered into a bond to discharge Richard de Pilkington and Ellen his wife from all his claims against them on any account; no. 1831.

²⁸ In that year John de Hindley successfully asserted his right to common of pasture in 200 acres of moor, &c., in Rivington against Richard de Pilkington, the chief lord, Ellen his wife, Alice widow of Alexander de Pilkington, Adam de Heywood, Roger de Broadhurst, and others; Assize R. 419, m. 12. Richard de Pilkington and Ellen his wife were among the defendants in a plea of the following year; *ibid.* 418, m. 2.

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and Richard was living in 1310.²⁹ He was succeeded by his son Robert,³⁰ who had a son Richard married to Joan, daughter of John de Heaton,³¹ and other children. Though a considerable number of the family deeds have been preserved the history of the manor is unknown for about thirty years,³² from 1350 to 1380, and then another Robert de Pilkington is found in possession. His parentage is not stated.³³ His first wife was Alice, daughter of Adam de Hulton; and then he married Alice de Astley; but in 1379

this union was dissolved, on the allegation of kinship with his first wife;³⁴ and Robert soon afterwards married Katherine, daughter of John de Ainsworth, then settled near the Peak.³⁵

Their son Alexander succeeded to the manor about 1403,³⁶ and in 1420 was found to hold seven parts of Rivington of Sir John de Pilkington in socage by the service of 5s. yearly.³⁷ He married Katherine, daughter of Richard de Crook, and was succeeded by his son Ralph.³⁸ From his first wife, Margery

²⁹ Richard de Pilkington acquired land between Tunstead Brook and Baxtondene water from Roger son of Simon del Knoll; and he made a grant to Godith, Simon's widow; Towneley MS. GG, no. 1662, 1918; also no. 2051, 2052. In 1310 Richard del Knoll demised to Richard de Pilkington, for ten years, all his land in Rivington; *ibid.* no. 2000.

³⁰ Robert was a minor at his father's death, and in 1318 took action against Robert son of John de Ditton and Ellen his wife for an account of his lands which they had held whilst he was under age; De Banco R. 222, no. 232. In the previous year he had acquired from Richard son of John del Knoll all his land at the Knoll in Rivington; Towneley MS. GG, no. 1914. In 1322 Robert and his brother Adam agreed to waive their actions against John de Ditchfield and his brothers Richard and William; *ibid.* no. 1866. Robert occurs again in 1330, 1333, and 1335; no. 1958, 1955, 1714. He contributed to the subsidy in 1332; *Exch. Lay Subs.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), 31.

He enfeoffed Alexander son of Cecily of his manor of Rivington in 1336, and it was regranted to him ten days later with remainders to his son Richard, and in default of issue to John and William, brothers of Richard; Towneley MS. GG, no. 1730, 1675. Robert was still living in 1347; Assize R. 1435, m. 18.

³¹ The settlement referred to in the last note was made just after Richard's marriage, and Robert de Pilkington on the same occasion granted Richard and Joan certain lands in Rivington. The bounds began at 'the oak in the lane,' went along the lane to Tunstead Brook, beyond the brook to the hedge dividing Goose Hey and Fernylea, along the hedge to Baxtondene Water, down this to the boundary between Anderton and Rivington, and then by the boundary of Broadhurst to the starting-point. The remainders are the same as before, except that Margaret, a daughter, is inserted; Towneley MS. GG, no. 1678.

In 1330 Alice, widow of Roger son of Simon del Knoll, released to Richard son of Robert de Pilkington all her right in Rivington; *ibid.* no. 2075. Richard occurs again in 1346 and 1347; no. 1903; Assize R. 1435, m. 18.

³² John de Pilkington of Rivington was witness to a local charter in 1367; Towneley MS. GG, no. 1870. He was no doubt the younger brother of Richard mentioned in the remainders in 1336, and may have been a trustee in possession.

An incident of this period may be recorded. Ralph de Pennington, clerk, prosecuted two men called 'Baxton men' in 1375 for digging in his quarry at Rivington; De Banco R. 457, m. 381 d.

³³ Col. Pilkington (*op. cit.* 36) considers that he was a younger son of Sir Roger de Pilkington of Pilkington, and that the silence is explained by Robert's

constant service abroad. As there is no evidence of any grant from the older Robert to the younger, it is more probable that the descent of the manor was regular, and that the second Robert was grandson and heir of the former one. Robert Pilkington of Rivington was a witness in the Scrope-Grosvenor trial, 1385-9. He was then aged forty or more, and had seen Sir Robert Grosvenor use the disputed coat at the taking of the tower of Brosses and at La Roche sur Yon about 1369, and all through that expedition; Sir H. Nicolas' *Scrope Roll*, 302 (quoted by Col. Pilkington, *op. cit.* 66). In 1386 one Robert de Pilkington went to Ireland, having the king's protection; *Cal. Pat.* 1385-9, p. 156.

³⁴ Towneley MS. GG, no. 1785; decree of divorce between Robert and Alice. The first marriage—if it was a marriage, about which there is some doubt—took place about 1360. The reason is given in proceedings concerning the third marriage; no. 2055. There was issue of the first (or second) marriage, for in 1445 Robert de Bolton claimed the manor of Rivington as son and heir of Imania, daughter and heir of Alice and Robert; Pal. of Lanc. Plea R. 8, m. 16b. In 1385 Robert de Pilkington agreed that his daughter Imania should marry Roger son of Robert de Bolton, lord of Little Bolton; Mr. W. H. Lever's D. (note by Col. Pilkington). Roger son of Robert de Bolton in 1408 gave a receipt for part of a debt of 25 marks due by Alexander de Pilkington; GG, no. 1660.

³⁵ Some account of the Ainsworth family is given under Middleton. The marriage agreement was made in Aug. 1382, in which it was recited that as Katherine was nearly related to Alice de Hulton, John her father should seek a dispensation from the Court of Rome; GG, no. 1843. He appears to have neglected to do so, and it was not until they had been married many years that the dispensation was sought; it was granted by Boniface IX in 1401. On receipt of his decree the Bishop (of Lichfield) made the usual inquiry by the Abbot of Whalley and the Prior of Bur-scough, and the latter absolved the parties and confirmed the marriage on 10 June 1403; Lich. Epis. Reg. vii, fol. 210; Towneley MS. GG, no. 2055. It was recorded that Robert and Katherine were married at Castleton Church in Nov. 1382, between the third hour and the ninth (or, between terce and none), in the presence of a number of relatives and friends, and after due publication of banns at Bolton and Castleton.

About the middle of 1402 a settlement was made by Robert de Pilkington and Katherine daughter of John de Ainsworth, who is not called Robert's wife, no doubt on account of the proceedings mentioned above. The remainders after their deaths were to Robert's sons: Alexander, Richard, William, Robert,

Roger, John, and Ewan; then to Richard son of Henry de Pilkington, and then to Sir Roger de Pilkington; *ibid.* no. 1716. A later one was made in Nov. 1402; *ibid.* no. 1668.

Robert seems to have died shortly after this, for the executors of his will were discharged, after the performance of their duty, in October 1403; no. 1920.

³⁶ In June 1402 Robert de Pilkington gave to Alexander his son and Katherine his wife, daughter of Richard del Crook of Whittle, certain lands in Rivington which he had acquired from Roger de Barton and Alice his wife, and from Robert del Knoll, &c.; *ibid.* no. 2076, 2077, 1682, 1683, 1705. The manor of Rivington and all its appurtenances had been granted by Robert to his son in 1398, no. 1677, 1731; but see also no. 1683, 1707, 1733, 1734.

Inquiry was in 1407 ordered into a complaint by Robert Unton that Alexander de Pilkington, Katherine his wife, and Ralph his son had disseised him of his free tenement in Rivington; no. 1666. The date (8 Hen. IV) may be erroneous; in 1428 (7 Hen. VI) Alexander agreed to Robert Unton's claim to the Knoll; no. 1741. In 1441 a similar agreement was made by Alexander's son Ralph; no. 1758. The dispute was amicably settled before 1436; no. 1688. In 1447 Robert Unton released all actions against Alexander de Pilkington; no. 1972.

³⁷ Lancs. Rec. Inq. p.m. no. 25, 26. The rent, which is that for half, not seven-eighths, of the manor does not agree with the other records quoted above.

Alexander de Pilkington occurs frequently until 1473, and he seems to have died in the following year. In 1429 he made a settlement of his lands in Rivington and Mellor; Towneley MS. GG, no. 1698, 1723. Again, in 1460, he made a feoffment of the manor of Rivington; no. 1699. In 1473 Peter Shuttleworth and others became bound to him in £20; no. 1810. In the following year Giles Lever, vicar of Bolton, and others made formal testimony 'that Alexander Pilkington of Rivington, lying on his deathbed, being in good mind, was examined by the said vicar his ghostly father if ever he had made any bargain, annuity, or gift of any of his lands and tenements in Lancashire or in Mellor' except for a term of years; and in reply he swore before all of them that he had not done so, but that his lands would descend to the right heirs of his body; no. 1717 (dated 14 Hen. IV for Edw. IV).

Alexander had a daughter Clemence, who married Sir Lawrence Fittou, dead in 1460; no. 1942.

³⁸ See a preceding note. Ralph son of Alexander Pilkington occurs in 1459-60, and in 1468 made a lease of lands in Rivington to Edmund Crosse; *ibid.* no. 1679, 2006, 1681.

daughter of William de Lever, Ralph was divorced in 1432,³⁹ and he then married Margaret, sister of William Ambrose,⁴⁰ by whom he had a son and heir Robert. Ralph Pilkington died in 1476, holding messuages and lands in Rivington of the king as of his duchy.⁴¹ Robert the son and heir was born about 1450. Another inquisition was taken in 1507.⁴²

One of Robert's first acts was to build a hall and cross-chamber at Rivington.⁴³ He lost the Derbyshire estates, the Ainsworths establishing their right after some violent proceedings.⁴⁴ Robert married Joan daughter of Thomas Tyldesley,⁴⁵ and died in September 1508, holding lands of the king; the service is not stated in the inquisition.⁴⁶ Richard, his

son and heir, then twenty-four years of age, is said to have built or rebuilt the chapel at Rivington, and was the father of several sons, who distinguished themselves as zealous Protestants in the second half of the century; one of them, James, was Bishop of Durham from 1560 to 1575, and founded the grammar school at Rivington in 1566.⁴⁷

An inclosure of the waste made in 1536 gives an indication of the holdings of the three lords of the manor; for, out of 20 acres, Richard Pilkington had 13, James Shaw 3, and George Lathom 4.⁴⁸ Richard Pilkington married Alice daughter of Lawrence Asshaw,⁴⁹ and at his death in 1551 was found to hold a messuage and chapel at Rivington by a rent of 12d. and suit of court;⁵⁰ George, his son and heir,

³⁹ Towneley MS. GG, no. 1709; no reason is mentioned, but in the preceding year the king ordered the arrest of Geoffrey de Livesey and a number of his family and neighbours on the charge of abducting Margery wife of Ralph de Pilkington; Riv. D. no. 23 (Irvine, *Rivington*, 18).

William de Lever was in 1437 party to an agreement with Alexander Pilkington and Ralph his son respecting the claims of Robert Unton; GG, no. 1689.

⁴⁰ In 1447 Alexander Pilkington settled certain lands for her life upon Margaret, sister of William Ambrose and wife of Ralph Pilkington; *ibid.* no. 1738. The remainders were to Robert and Richard, sons of Ralph.

⁴¹ *Lancs. Inq. p.m.* (Chet. Soc.), ii, 104; the socage rent of 6s. 3d. is named. He also held the chapel croft and parcel of a tenement called Catholes of the Knights Hospitallers by 12d. a year. A deed of 1478 names Ralph as living in 1475; he had sons Robert (the heir) and William; Towneley MS. DD, no. 2157.

Dame Margaret's dower was agreed upon in 1476; GG, no. 1862, 1906. The widow was living in 1479; no. 1924.

⁴² Duchy of Lanc. Inq. p.m. iii, no. 33; this estate is described as twenty messuages, 60 acres of land, 5 acres of meadow, 2 acres of wood, and 10 acres of moss, of the clear annual value of 20 marks.

⁴³ Towneley MS. GG, no. 1701, 1737.

In 1478 his grandfather Alexander's feoffee released to Robert son of Ralph Pilkington all his right in Rivington and Mellor; no. 1670. A short time afterwards Robert himself made a feoffment of all his lands in Rivington; no. 1757. An award also was made in a dispute between him and William son of William Anderton; no. 1801, 1744, 1906. Oliver Hilton and his son Roland released lands in Rivington and a rent of 9s. to him in 1480; no. 1861. In 1483 he was summoned by the Archdeacon of Chester to answer certain complaints; no. 2043. Edmund Lathom of Ridding Chapel was in 1486 bound to an arbitration as to his dispute with Robert Pilkington; no. 1965. Two years later a similar arbitration was agreed to respecting land in Kilchurch in Rivington claimed by John Shaw; no. 1951. William Orrell in 1508 delivered to Robert two boxes of evidences; no. 2042.

⁴⁴ His narrative of the long struggle—from 1478 to 1501—is printed in the Hist. MSS. Commission's *Various Collections*, ii, 28–56. In the earlier year named 'Sir John Savage came into Lancashire and took Robert Pilkington pri-

soner in the night, and carried him to Macclesfield in Cheshire, where he was grievously fettered and was threatened to be put to death unless he would yield his right to Mellor.' In spite of this opening the narrative is chiefly one of the law's delays.

⁴⁵ Towneley MS. GG, no. 1864; the marriage was to take place by August, 1476.

⁴⁶ *Ibid.* no. 1681, 1986; also Duchy of Lanc. Inq. p.m. iv, no. 10. Only a messuage and 60 acres of land were recorded. A certificate of good character was given to Elizabeth daughter of Robert Pilkington in 1507–8 by the vicar of Bolton; Towneley MS. GG, no. 2031.

⁴⁷ James Pilkington was born about 1520; educated at Cambridge; B.A., and fellow of St. John's College, 1539; B.D. 1550. With other Protestants he fled to the continent on the accession of Mary, and lived at Zurich, Basle, Geneva, and Frankfort until her death. He then returned to England and was quickly appointed on the committee for revising the Common Prayer Book and on the Commission of Visitors of the University of Cambridge. The master of St. John's College being deprived for his adherence to the Roman religion Pilkington was made master and Regius Professor of Divinity (1559). At the end of 1560 he was made Bishop of Durham; he obtained the restitution of the lands belonging to the see, but had to pay over £1,000 a year to the Crown as compensation. At the Northern rising in 1569 he was in London, and the queen did not allow him to profit by the forfeitures which followed on its suppression, his claim, in right of his Palatinate, being set aside 'for that time.' Nevertheless he was not only able to found Rivington School, but to provide handsomely for his daughters; he was indeed regarded as very penurious, and left the buildings of the see in ruins. He promoted his four younger brothers. He died at Auckland 23 Jan. 1575–6, and was buried there without ceremony, and then in Durham Cathedral on 24 May following. His published works have been reprinted by the Parker Society (1842), with a biography and list of works; there are letters also in the same society's *Zurich Letters*, i, 222, 286 and *Parker Corres.* 221; these show him to have been of the extremer and more ardent class of Protestants. In his statutes for Rivington School he ordained that the master should be 'a hater of popery and superstition,' and that the scholars should be taught in Calvin's *Catechism* and *Institutes*. There are biographies in *Dict. Nat. Biog.*; Baker,

Hist. of St. John's College (ed. Mayor), i, 146–51 (with the epitaph), 248; Cooper, *Athen. Cantab.* i, 344, 563; Low, *Durham* (Dioc. Hist.), 227–31; White, *Elizabethan Bishops*, 163–7.

Leonard Pilkington, D.D., his brother, adopted the same ecclesiastical principles; he was fellow of St. John's, Cambridge, in 1545; ejected for religion in 1554, and became an exile; returned to be reinstated in his fellowship and was appointed master on his brother's resignation in 1561. His patronage of the extreme party among the Protestants led to great disorders, and he resigned in 1564. His brother promoted him to benefices and a prebend in his diocese. He died in 1599, and left some books to his college. See notices in *Dict. Nat. Biog.*; Baker, *op. cit.* i, 152–6; *Athen. Cantab.* ii, 268, 550.

John Pilkington, another brother, was Prebendary and Archdeacon of Durham; *Athen. Cantab.* ii, 358, 553.

Lawrence Pilkington, another brother, was also beneficed in the diocese of Durham.

Francis Pilkington, another brother, had in 1560 a lease of the manor of Millington in Yorkshire granted by St. John's College for twenty years; Baker, *op. cit.* i, 385. He was steward for the bishop.

⁴⁸ Towneley MS. GG, no. 1989–93; it is stated 'that Richard Pilkington of Rivington and his ancestors have been lords of the waste and commons of Rivington, and also have herbage or else a yearly rent therefor of all the inhabitants of the said town, and also have had all manner of mines upon the same.' For later divisions of the waste see *Lancs. and Ches. Rec.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), ii, 274–5.

⁴⁹ Towneley MS. GG, no. 1686, 1952; the marriage was to take place before 30 Nov. 1504.

⁵⁰ *Ibid.* no. 1672. The rent shows this to refer to the Hospitallers' lands. The date of death is taken from the Rivington family picture. One of the Towneley deeds, however (GG, no. 1977), is a grant of dower in 1547 by George Pilkington to his mother Alice; the date is probably erroneous. Richard appears to have added to the family possessions by purchases in Heath Charnock, &c.; but as in previous cases only a small part of his estate appears in the inquisition. In 1521 he enfeoffed Thurstan Tyldesley and others of his manor of Rivington and lands in Heath Charnock, Walton-le-Dale, and Croston; GG, no. 1948. About the same time he allowed one Piers Bradley to make a waingate through a parcel of land called Little Rivington in the occupation

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was of full age.⁵¹ The fortunes of the family were declining, and after the death of George's son and heir Robert in 1605,⁵² the estates were sold.



SEAL OF RIVINGTON SCHOOL, 1566

The arms are those of Bishop James Pilkington, who bore *Argent a cross patonce voided gules, on a chief vert three suns or, impaled with the cross and lions of the bishopric of Durham.*

The Pilkington manor was purchased in 1611 by Robert Lever of Darcy Lever and Thomas Breres of Preston.⁵³ The former, who died in 1620, left his

moiety of the manor and Old Hall, with appurtenances, to his younger son Robert, a great benefactor of Bolton School.⁵⁴ Dying unmarried Robert's estate went to a son of his elder brother James, a third Robert Lever.⁵⁵ The new possessor lived on till 1688, when by his will his lands, &c., in Rivington, Heath Charnock, and Walton-le-Dale went to his daughter Jane, who had married John Andrews of Little Lever in 1648.⁵⁶ Their heir was their son John, whose son and heir, also John Andrews, purchased the other moiety of the manor in 1729.⁵⁷

This second moiety descended from Thomas Breres, who died in 1617,⁵⁸ to his son Thomas. On his death in 1673 Thomas Breres was followed by his brother John, a clergyman, sometime incumbent of Chorley.⁵⁹ The Breres family lived at Rivington, and several stones bear the initials of William Breres, the son and heir of John, and his wife Martha, showing their alterations in the hall buildings. William died in 1723, and his son John sold his moiety of the manor in 1729, as stated above.⁶⁰

After their purchase the Andrews family seem to have removed from Little Lever to Rivington.⁶¹ John Andrews, the purchaser, died in 1743,⁶² and was succeeded by his daughter Abigail, wife of Joseph Wilson of Bolton. In 1765, in default of issue, the estate reverted to the male line, the heir being Robert Andrews, grandson of Abigail's uncle Robert. The new owner pulled down the old hall and built the present house. On his death in 1793 the manor descended to his eldest son Robert, who died unmarried in 1858, then to the younger son John, who

of Piers' brother Henry Bradley; Towneley MS. GG, no. 1713.

For the family picture above mentioned, showing Richard Pilkington, his wife and children, see the account of the church, *infra*. There are prints of it in the works cited.

⁵¹ The New Hall in Rivington and its appurtenances, except the church and churchyard and the water-mill, and mill hill were in 1544 granted by Richard Pilkington to George, his son and heir, and Anne his wife at a peppercorn rent; *ibid.* no. 1724. A settlement of the manor of Rivington and lands in Rivington, Heath Charnock, and Walton-le-Dale was made in 1579 by George Pilkington and Anne his wife; *Pal. of Lanc. Feet of F. bdlc. 41, m. 203*. George appears to have purchased four messuages and lands in Rivington and Heath Charnock in 1569 from Christopher Anderton and Dorothy his wife; *ibid.* bdlc. 31, m. 53. In 1590 George Pilkington appears as a plaintiff; *Ducatus Lanc. (Rec. Com.), iii, 225*. A little later, in 1596, he gave lands, &c., in Walton-le-Dale to his son and heir Robert; Towneley MS. GG, no. 1722. He died soon afterwards.

⁵² Robert in 1601 mortgaged the manor and other estates to William Bispham, of London, who took possession the following year and held it till Robert's death on 17 Nov. 1605. The manor of Rivington was found, as already stated, to be held of the king in socage by 6s. 3d. rent. The heir was Robert's brother James, and sisters Katherine and Alice were living; *Lancs. Inq. p.m. (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), i, 151-3*.

⁵³ In July, 1611, by fine Robert Lever and Thomas Breres secured from the executors of Robert Pilkington's will and James his heir, the manor of Rivington,

and messuages, lands, water-mill, dove-cote, &c., in Rivington, Walton-le-Dale, and Heath Charnock; *Pal. of Lanc. Feet of F. bdlc. 79, no. 7*.

A survey of the Old Hall estate, made in 1610, is printed in Irvine, *Rivington*, 158-60. The New Hall was then in the possession of Katherine Pilkington, sister of Robert and James; a water corn mill and kiln was let at a rent of £1, six days' 'shearing' and five boon hens; 'a fair inn, with a fair new barn, stables, and other necessary buildings,' brought in a rent of 15s., and four days' shearing was due. Chief rents were received as follows: The heirs of Adam Bradshaw, 8d.; of Robert Birkenhead, 2d.; of William Rivington, a barbed arrow; of Roger Broadhurst, 3d.; of Robert Shaw, 1d.; of Richard Knoll, 3d.; and of Roger Rivington, *nil*. The extent of the demesne was 80½ acres, to which 10 acres inclosed from the common had been added; the other tenements comprised 155 acres.

A survey made in 1627 is printed *ibid.* 161.

⁵⁴ *Lancs. Inq. p.m. (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), ii, 255-6*. His will is printed in Irvine, *Rivington*, 161-3; he bequeathed 40s. a year to 'the wages of a preacher to be hired at Rivington.'

To the subsidy of 1622 there contributed 'for lands' Robert Lever and Ellen Breres; *Misc. (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), i, 152*.

⁵⁵ Robert Lever's will is printed *ibid.* 166-8; it does not provide for the descent of Rivington. For the Lever pedigree see Dugdale's *Visit.* (*Chet. Soc.*), 186.

⁵⁶ Irvine, *Rivington*, 39-41, 177, where an abstract of his will is given; also of that of his wife Frances, dated 1694. John Andrews was a captain in the Parliament's army during the Civil War, and one of

the elders of the Bury Presbyterian Classis; *ibid.* 50, and Shaw, *Bury Classis* (*Chet. Soc.*).

⁵⁷ Irvine, *Rivington*, 50, 51.

⁵⁸ *Ibid.* 41. An abstract of his will is given; he also left 40s. a year towards a preacher for the church of Rivington.

⁵⁹ For the will of John Breres see *ibid.* 178.

⁶⁰ *Ibid.* 41-3, 48-50.

In 1657 a fine was made between John Breres, clerk, and Thomas Breres touching a moiety of the manor of Rivington; *Pal. of Lanc. Feet of F. bdlc. 160, m. 20*. From the will of John Breres, clerk, the younger, made and proved in 1667, it appears that he was the purchaser, and had demised it for fifty years after the death of his uncle Thomas, subject to provisions for redeeming it; Irvine, *op. cit.* 173. In 1657 a John Breres was appointed to be minister of the chapel of Heapey; *Plund. Mins. Accts. (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), ii, 201*. The younger John was son of the elder, and was admitted to St. John's College, Cambridge, as a sizar in 1655, being then over eighteen years of age; he had been at school at Burnley; *Admissions St. John's Coll.* i, 121. In the hearth tax of 1663 he paid for three hearths while Thomas paid for one only; Irvine, *op. cit.* 47.

Thomas Breres' will is printed, *ibid.* 174; he left the hall of Rivington, &c., to trustees, and mentions his brother John Breres. An abstract of John's will is given *ibid.* 48.

For the Andrews and Crompton tenure see Irvine, *op. cit.* 51, 52, and the pedigree in Baines, *Lancs.* (ed. Croston), iii, 230; also *Local Gleanings Lancs. and Ches.* ii, 240.

⁶² His will is given by Mr. Irvine, *op. cit.* 185.

died in 1865, and afterwards to John William Crompton, grandson of their sister Hannah Maria, wife of Robert Fletcher of Liverpool, whose daughter Lucy in 1834 married Woodhouse Crompton.

In 1900 Mr. Crompton sold his interest in the manor and his estate in the township, including 2,100 acres of land, to Mr. William Hesketh Lever, of Thornton Hough in Wirral. Mr. Lever laid out about 360 acres as a park for his native town of Bolton. In 1902 the Corporation of Liverpool sought to buy all the land to preserve the purity of the Rivington water supply, and ultimately succeeded; they own the soil of the park, but have to maintain it.

RIVINGTON HALL is said to have been originally a wood and plaster building in the form of a quadrangle, inclosing in its centre a square court and approached by an open gateway.⁶³ No part of this timber structure, however, remains, though the quadrangular plan is still retained with an open side on the east. The house seems to have been partly rebuilt in stone at the end of the 17th, or beginning of the 18th century, though it is possible that the timber building did not extend to more than one portion of the whole. The north wing of the present building is of stone and bears on the lower parts of the wall to the courtyard, which has several built up low mullioned windows, a stone with the date 1700 and initials WBM [William Breres and his wife Martha (Gill)], while over a doorway on the west side of the court are the initials

W B (William Breres) and the date 1694. The upper parts of both these wings have been rebuilt in stone in later times. The greater part of the house was pulled down in 1774 by Robert Andrews, who built the present west front, a substantial two-story structure, in red brick with a pediment. The date of erection and the initials of Robert Andrews are on the spout heads. The south wing is a later 19th-century addition also in brick. On the stable buildings to the east of the house are two door heads, one dated 1713 with the initials WBMI (William and Martha Breres and their son John), and the other 1732 with the initials IAA (John Andrews and Abigail Crookes his wife).

On the north-east of the hall is a very fine old barn 105 ft. 8 in. in length, divided into seven bays by six pairs of massive crucks standing on stone bases, varying in size from 10 in. to 15 in. by 18 in. to 20 in. The width of the main span is 25 ft. 6 in., but 'aisles' have been added in a recent restoration making the total width of the building at present 57 ft. 6 in. The timbers are now wholly exposed, new exterior stone walls having been erected during the restoration, porches added in the north and south sides, and the whole re-roofed with stone slates. The barn is now used as a place of refreshment in connexion with Lever Park.

The Hospitallers had lands in Rivington.⁶⁴

Among the families occurring in the early deeds and pleadings are those of Rivington,⁶⁵ Broadhurst,⁶⁶ Knoll,⁶⁷

⁶³ Introduction to 'Statutes of Rivington School,' by Rev. Joseph Whitaker, 1837, quoted by Irvine, *Rivington*, 124.

⁶⁴ *Lancs. Inq. p.m.* (Chet. Soc.), ii, 105; held by Ralph Pilkington in 1476. Cat-holes, part of the land, lies to the north of the church, between Dean Brook and the reservoir. Richard Pilkington held it by the same rent of 12d. in 1540; Kuerden MSS. v, fol. 84.

The expression 'church land' in a charter of Cecily de Worsley (Towneley MS. GG, no. 1673) may refer to the Hospitallers' estate.

⁶⁵ Some deeds of this family have been quoted in previous notes. From the survey of 1610 it appears that William Rivington held by the rent of a barbed arrow. His estate is thus identified with part of that called the Street in Charnock, held by Alexander Waddington at his death in 1622; *Lancs. Inq. p.m.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), iii, 339-341. The place gave a name to the Street family about whose possessions there were some violent proceedings in 1533; *Duchy Plead.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), ii, 60-69.

One of the earliest Rivington charters is a grant by Simon de Rivington to William de Burnhill of a part of Winterhold (Winter Hill), in the northern part of the township; the bounds mention Tunstead End, the Hoarstones, Winterhold Pike, Armshead, and the Deane; Towneley MS. GG, no. 1818. Again, a Roger de Rivington gave to Hugh son of William de Worthington all his part of Winterhold, the bounds again naming Winterhold Pike; *ibid.* no. 1974.

Nel son of Geoffrey de Brun and Isabel his wife released to Cecily widow of Roger de Worsley land in Rivington called Winterhold; *ibid.* no. 1659; Irvine, *op. cit.* 155. Cecily was the daughter of William de Rivington, and she granted a fourth part of Knolleshalgh (Knowlshaw)

to Adam son of Robert son of Dorant; the bounds mention Caldwell by William's house, Whernstonescliff, Frith Brook, Rivington Pike, Standing Stone, Cringlebrook, and the foot of the cliff; Towneley MS. GG, no. 1673; Irvine, *op. cit.* 156. She was probably the mother of the Alexander son of Cecily already mentioned, living in 1327 and 1336.

⁶⁶ The Broadhurst estate is probably the eighth part of the manor subsequently held by the Shaw family; Irvine, *Rivington*, 5, 22. Robert de Broadhurst in 1277 claimed common of pasture in Rivington against Robert del Knoll; Assize R. 1238, m. 34 d. Roger de Broadhurst in 1279 complained that Richard de Heywood and others had broken into his house at Rivington; De Banco R. 30, m. 84 d. Roger son of Roger de Broadhurst took action in 1301 against Roger de Broadhurst and others, concerning messuages, &c., in Rivington; but the case was deferred through an error in the writ due to a blunder by the scribe; Assize R. 419, m. 9. In the following year Roger de Broadhurst unsuccessfully claimed 80 acres of moor and pasture in Rivington and 13s. 4d. rent against Richard de Pilkington, Adam de Heywood, and others; Assize R. 418, m. 2. Roger was again a plaintiff in 1313, respecting land he had demised to Richard de Hulton for a term; De Banco R. 201, m. 64 d.

William de Broadhurst contributed to the subsidy in 1332; *Excb. Lay Subs.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), 31; he was a defendant in 1347; Assize R. 1435, m. 18. It appears that William was a son of Roger de Broadhurst; in 1327 a settlement of his estates was made on William and his wife Ellen, with remainder to Richard de Hulton; Towneley MS. GG, no. 1663. From a document cited in the text it appears

that Richard de Hulton was already in possession of an eighth part of the manor. This deed may therefore refer to a part of his estate lying in the Hulton lordship. The surrender of lands to Alexander de Pilkington, already quoted (GG, no. 1704), may have preceded the grant by Pilkington to Hulton. The heir of Roger Broadhurst, however, paid a chief rent of 3d. to the Pilkingtons in 1610.

From a suit in 1506 it appears that a William Broadhurst in 1390 settled his lands on his daughter Ellen and her issue by Robert son of Thomas Bradshaw, their descendants being the plaintiffs Robert Banastre and Hugh Eccleston. Ellen, however, had another husband, Richard Bulhagh, and another settlement was made by her father, in virtue of which John Shaw held the estate in 1506. There had been an arbitration about the succession in 1440; *Duchy Plead.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), i, 33-6.

⁶⁷ Simon, son of Henry de Knoll, married a Godith, and they had a son Roger; thus Thomas de Coppull granted the Hanging Load in Rivington to Simon son of Henry de Knoll and his wife Godith; the bounds began at Tunstead Brook, and passed the land of Roger son of John de Broadhurst; Towneley MS. GG, no. 1933; Simon de Knoll and Godith his wife made a grant to Roger their son; no. 1799; and Roger son of Simon de Knoll granted to his mother, Godith de Broadhurst, a fourth part of his land of Anderton Carr between Tunstead Brook and Baxstondene water; no. 1910. Roger and Godith appear to have surrendered their lands to Richard de Pilkington (no. 1662, 2052), who granted Broadhurst to Godith again; no. 1918. Alice the widow of Roger claimed dower in 1324 (De Banco R. 257, m. 136 d.), and held it in 1341; Towneley MS. GG, no. 1896. Other members of the family are mentioned in the deeds;

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Gamelsley,⁶⁸ and Unton.⁶⁹ The only freeholder named in 1600 was Robert Pilkington, who was a justice of the peace,⁷⁰ but other names occur in the inquisitions,⁷¹ and several are described as yeomen in the Protestation List of 1641-2.⁷² From the returns of the hearth tax of 1663 it appears that the hall, the largest house, had only four hearths; there were three houses with three hearths, and seven with two.⁷³

In 1796 the executors of Mr. Andrews paid nearly a third of the land tax.⁷⁴ At the appropriation of the tithe rent-charge in 1845 the estate of Robert Andrews was 1,777 acres, of which only 70 were cultivated as arable; moor and waste lands occupied a little more than half the whole, while the demesne was 200 acres.

Great House Farm is a two-story stone-built house with mullioned windows and stone-slatted roof, erected probably in the middle of the 17th century. The principal front faces east, and has a small gable, and there are two dormer gables on the west side. The building was extended northward about the end of the same century or beginning of the 18th, and a further extension in the same direction but on a different axis (swung round to north-east) is probably 'the house newly erected on the Great House Farm,' leased to the master of the Grammar School in 1767.⁷⁵ North of the house are the remains of a fine old barn recently restored and used as a tea-house for excursionists, but reduced to three bays in length, carried on two sets of crucks measuring 9 in. by 20 in. on stone bases, with a span of 22 ft. The barn, which is now only 42 ft. in length, was apparently at one time of much greater size; like the Old Hall barn it is a very fine specimen of ancient timber construction and has been similarly restored, with a west porch and side aisles, which have increased its width to 48 ft. 9 in. The outer walls have been rebuilt, and the roof newly

covered with stone slates. A short wing with a gable facing south was added on a date subsequent to the original building,⁷⁶ but this appears to have been removed during the restoration. In the west gable is preserved an old stone with the initials ^A T A R (Thomas, Alice, and Robert Anderton) and date 1702, probably the year of an extension or rebuilding of the outside wall.

'The south end of New Hall Farm, containing a fine large chimney-stack and a spiral stone staircase, is possibly as old as the beginning of the 16th century, while the interior oak and plaster partitions look even older. On the east side of the house, over a loft now used for hens, on a portion of the building which is clearly later than the south end, is the date 1642.'⁷⁷

The church of *HOLY TRINITY* is *CHURCH* situated on abrupt rising ground commanding a fine view westward over the reservoirs and the country beyond. It is a plain stone building of little or no architectural interest consisting of a chancel 13 ft. 6 in. long by 15 ft. 6 in. wide, nave 55 ft. 6 in. by 27 ft. 6 in., and south porch. The latter is a modern addition built in front of the old south-west door of the nave, and a small vestry has also been added outside a corresponding door on the north side. The walls are of sandstone in uneven courses, with large quoins, many of which measure 3 ft. 6 in. in length, and some at the west end over 5 ft. The roofs are covered with modern green slates, and finished with overhanging eaves, and the coping of the stone gables has been renewed in recent times. At the west end is an octagonal stone bell-turret on a square base, with conical roof and good 18th-century cock vane, carried out partly in front of the wall on corbels.

The present structure appears to be a rebuilding, about 1666, of the 16th-century chapel of Richard

Robert son of Hugh, Towneley MS. GG, no. 1817; Richard son of John (1316), no. 1914, &c. Adam de Knoll in 1347 held half a messuage by charter of his father Roger, on Adam's marriage with Alice daughter of Roger de Tonge; Assize R. 1435, m. 28. Thomas Knoll and Robert his son and heir in 1564 surrendered a rent of 6s. in Rivington to James son and heir of Christopher Anderton; Pal. of Lanc. Feet of F. bdlc. 26, m. 36. Christopher Anderton of Lostock died in 1592 holding lands in Rivington of George Pilkington; Duchy of Lanc. Inq. p.m. xvi, no. 41. The heirs of Richard Knoll in 1610 paid 3d. chief rent to the Pilkingtons' successors.

⁶⁸ Gamelsley appears to have been in the south-western corner of the township, and is now covered by the reservoir and filter beds. Richard son of Richard de Gamelsley has been mentioned above. Roger de Gamelsley granted to William his eldest son, on his marriage with Mabel daughter of Thomas de Ridleys, all his lands in Rivington; Towneley MS. GG, no. 1740. Two persons named William de Gamelsley contributed to the subsidy in 1332; *Exch. Lay Subs.* 32. Thomas de Gamelsley of Rivington in 1367 made a feoffment of his lands; Towneley MS. GG, no. 1870. By 1442 the lands of the above-named William de Gamelsley had descended to Robert Unton; they included a messuage called the Knoll and other lands; no. 1739, 1740.

⁶⁹ Alice widow of John Unton of

Adlington made a settlement of her lands in Rivington in 1405; no. 1782. She was probably the heir of the Thomas de Gamelsley of 1367. A Robert Unton, who was the son of John and Alice, made a grant of his hereditary lands to Thomas and Hugh his sons in 1455; no. 1889. In 1458 Thomas son of Robert Honkinson de Unton released to Robert Unton all right to lands which the latter had had from his father; no. 1947; while ten years later Isabel widow of Robert Honkinson made a similar release to the same Robert Unton; no. 1959.

The custody of two messuages in Rivington was granted to John de Unton of Adlington in 1400, they being in the king's hands by the outlawry of Anio ap Ithel Moil; a year later Robert the son of John had them; *Dep. Keeper's Rep.* xl, App. 527, 529.

⁷⁰ *Misc.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), i, 246.

⁷¹ Leonard Asshaw of Shaw in Flixton, who died in 1594, had land in Rivington; the tenure is not stated; Duchy of Lanc. Inq. p.m. xvi, no. 11.

Between 1544 and 1549 Peter Anderton claimed the Knoll in Rivington against Thomas Asshaw; *Ducatus Lanc.* (Rec. Com.), i, 168, 232; ii, 95. Leonard Asshaw was plaintiff concerning Moldesfield in 1579; *ibid.* iii, 73. The estate was sold to Robert Lever and Thomas Breres in 1612; Rivington D.

The Bradshaws of Bradshaw held four messuages and lands of the Pilkingtons

by a rent of 3d. yearly; Duchy of Lanc. Inq. p.m. vii, no. 33; ix, no. 31; xiii, no. 39; also in a fine of 1578 (Pal. of Lanc. Feet of F. bdlc. 40, m. 206), and Survey of 1610 quoted above.

John Rutter in 1540 made a settlement of lands in Standish, Rivington, and Heath Charnock; they were purchased by Geoffrey Walkden in 1562; Pal. of Lanc. Feet of F. bdlc. 12, m. 34; 24, m. 132; 38, m. 122.

Ralph de Pilkington granted land in Rivington to Edmund Crosse in 1468; Rivington D. In 1580 John Crosse and Alice his wife sold to Geoffrey Yate; Pal. of Lanc. Feet of F. bdlc. 42, m. 160.

⁷² The list is printed in full in Irvine's *Rivington*, 44-6.

⁷³ *Ibid.* 47. The same work contains accounts of the following houses in the township; The Old Hall, which has a water-mill formerly used for churning, 123; New Hall, 128; Great House, formerly owned by the Bulloughs, then by the Shaws, who sold it in 1699 to Thomas Anderton of Rivington, and now the property of Mr. W. H. Lever, 126; Brown Hill, 130; School Brow, formerly the Andertons', 130; Moses Cocker's, 132; Ainsworth's Farm, 134; Ward's Farm, 135; Higher and Lower Knolls, 136; and Higher, Middle, and Lower Derbishires, 138.

⁷⁴ Land tax returns at Preston.

⁷⁵ Irvine, *Rivington*, 127.

⁷⁶ *Ibid.* 227.

⁷⁷ *Ibid.* 129.

Pilkington. Many repairs have been carried out, however, in recent times, and the building underwent a thorough restoration about twenty-five years ago.⁷⁸ The building externally has little architectural interest, the work being of the plainest description, with no plinth to the walls, and all the windows have chamfered jambs and mullions and plain heads without hood-moulds. The chancel has a window of five pointed lights with a transom at the east end under a segmental head, and a three-light square-headed window on the north and south with round-headed lights. The chancel arch is of two chamfered orders dying out at the springing.

The nave has three square-headed windows of three-lights on each side, the lights on the south being round-headed, while those on the north are square. Between the second and third windows from the east on each side is a doorway, and there is a door at the west end; there is no west window. The roof is divided into five bays by four original oak beams which have recently been exposed by the removal of a plaster ceiling. The roof of the chancel being lower than that of the nave there is a small window over the chancel arch.

An oak screen divides the chancel from the nave, but only a small portion is original. It appears to be of 15th-century date, and may have belonged to the former chapel. The screen has four openings with traceried heads on each side of the centre space, buttressed posts and embattled top. The pulpit, which is of oak and semi-octagonal and plain, stands on a stem against the north-east wall of the nave. It is probably of 16th-century date, and is a very good specimen of the work of the period, each side having two linen-pattern panels, and with an embattled and carved cornice. There is a good 18th-century chandelier. The rest of the fittings are modern, the old square oak pews having been taken out some years ago and modern benches substituted. The organ is at the west end above the entrance. Over the north door is a copy of a curious genealogical painting relating to the Pilkington family,⁷⁹ and there are brasses to

John and George Shawe of Anglezarke (died 1627 and 1650).

To the west of the church stands a small stone building measuring 13 ft. 8 in. by 12 ft. 6 in. outside, called the bell-house. It is supposed to have been built originally to receive the great bell purchased in 1542 from the church at Wigan, which is said to have weighed '1080 poundes.'⁸⁰ The structure has been re-roofed and is now used for storage purposes. The Wigan bell has disappeared, and there is now one modern bell in the west gable turret. The oldest gravestone is dated 1616, and there are some with very good raised lettering.

The plate consists of a silver chalice of 1799, a large plated paten with inscription: 'The Rev. John Fisher, minister, William Latham, chapel warden 1788,' and a plated flagon, probably of the same date.

The original registers begin in 1730, but there are copies (made in 1834 'from a register book much decayed') of all the entries of baptisms and burials from 1702 down to 1730. The marriage registers begin in 1745.

The stone ends of the stocks are still in position in the parsonage garden, the ground having been taken in from the village green.

A chapel of ease was built at ADVOWSON Rivington some time before the Reformation,⁸¹ and was rebuilt or restored by Richard Pilkington about 1540;⁸² this was probably claimed or purchased by him, and, as above stated, was considered his property in 1551.⁸³ In 1566, however, it was made parochial.⁸⁴ The Pilkingtons early became Protestant, and service appears to have been maintained in the chapel.⁸⁵ By 1650 some small endowment had been secured,⁸⁶ and in 1718 the income was £28.⁸⁷ The net annual value now is £340. The incumbents are elected by the inhabitants. The following is a list:—

oc. 1620 Robert Worthington⁸⁸
oc. 1635 Edmund Shaw⁸⁹
oc. 1641 Robert Dewhurst⁹⁰

⁷⁸ Croston, *Historic Sites of Lancs. and Ches.* (1883), 146.

⁷⁹ The original picture, which measures 53 in. by 35 in., was considerably damaged by fire in 1834. A careful copy had been made, however, in 1821, and from it the copy now in Rivington Church was made in 1835. The remains of the original painting are now in the possession of Col. John Pilkington of Wavertree. See Appendix to Fergusson Irvine's *Rivington*, where a full account of the picture, supplied by Col. Pilkington, is given. It was originally placed in the Grammar School, but subsequently removed to the church.

⁸⁰ Irvine, op. cit. 64. Mention is made of the building in the Inq. p.m. of Robert Lever, 1621, where it is called 'domus campanarii.'

⁸¹ The 'chapel croft' is named in a deed by Margaret Pilkington and her son Robert in 1476; Towneley MS. GG, no. 1726. This croft is also named in 1478, and was apparently part of the Hospitalers' land; *Lancs. Inq. p.m.* (Chet. Soc.), ii, 105. In a petition of 1628 it was asserted that the people of Rivington, Anglezarke, Hemphaw, and Folds built a chapel 'upon a little toft and quillet of land' where divine service was celebrated

'for many years of antiquity'; Raines, *Chant.* (Chet. Soc.), ii, 261. On the division of the waste in 1536 an allotment was made to 'the use of a priest at Rivington chapel for evermore'; Towneley MS. GG, no. 1993.

⁸² His building of it is asserted on the family picture. In the petition referred to in the last note it is stated that Richard Pilkington induced Bishop Bird to consecrate the chapel on 11 Oct. 1541, the fee being £5. Queen Elizabeth, in sanctioning the foundation of the grammar school, also ordained that the chapel should continue in use, and that baptisms, marriages, and burials should be performed there, the election of a 'discreet, learned and fit chaplain or minister' being left to the inhabitants.

The priest in charge in 1541-2 was William Bradley; *Clergy List* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), 13.

The chapel seems to have been well provided with 'ornaments,' judging from the list of those remaining in 1552; the books were 'a mass book, an English Bible, and a manual.' It seems to have been considered parochial, and is called a church; *Ch. Gds.* (Chet. Soc.), 37, 38.

For a description of the church in

1869 see Glynn, *Lancs. Churches* (Chet. Soc.), 96.

⁸³ See his inquisition cited above.

⁸⁴ See a preceding note.

⁸⁵ Henry Croston's name as curate appears in the Visitation List of 1563, but it is crossed through, so that he left about that time. There is no name entered in the list of 1565. The unnamed curate in 1590 was 'no preacher' (S.P. Dom. Eliz. xxxi, 47), but about 1610 Rivington was reported to be 'well supplied with ministry'; *Hist. MSS. Com. Rep.* xiv, App. iv, 11.

⁸⁶ Robert Lever and Thomas Breres had each endowed it with £2 a year, and 'several well-disposed persons' subscribed £36 towards the endowment; *Commonwealth Ch. Surv.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), 34-6.

⁸⁷ Gastrell, *Notitia Cestr.* (Chet. Soc.), ii, 19; at that time the chapelry comprised Rivington and Anglezarke.

⁸⁸ Tebay, *Stat. of Rivington School*, 77; quoted in Irvine, *Rivington*, 65. In the latter work there is a full account of the church and curates, &c., pp. 53-89.

⁸⁹ *Misc.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), i, 112.

⁹⁰ Irvine, *Rivington*, 46.

A HISTORY OF LANCASHIRE

- oc. 1647 Thomas Blackburne⁹¹
 1648 John Walker⁹²
 1649 Ralph Nuttall⁹³
 ? 1654 [Thomas] Abbott⁹⁴
 1657 Samuel Newton⁹⁵
 1662 Thomas Blackburne (restored)⁹⁶
 oc. 1674 Samuel Newton⁹⁷
 — ? John Walker⁹⁸
 1686 John Battersby, M.A.⁹⁹
 oc. 1701 Joshua Dixon, B.A.¹⁰⁰
 oc. 1725 Andrew Gray¹⁰¹
 oc. 1728 John Waddington, B.A.¹⁰² (Trinity Coll. Camb.)
 1755 William Walsh, M.A.¹⁰³ (Brasenose Coll. Oxf.)
 1763 John Fisher, B.A.¹⁰⁴ (Peterhouse, Camb.)
 1813 William Heaton, B.A.¹⁰⁵ (Queen's Coll. Oxf.)
 1823 James Jackson¹⁰⁶
 1856 Thomas Sutcliffe¹⁰⁷
 1879 William Ritson, M.A.¹⁰⁸ (Pembroke Coll. Camb.)

Nonconformity dates from the Restoration. The principal inhabitants adhered to the Presbyterian system, and though the minister was ejected from the church he is said to have returned to it after a short interval, and it seems to have remained practically in the hands of the Nonconformists for many years. Some separate meeting-place appears to have been used also, and in 1693 Thomas Anderton of Great House gave £100 or a rent-charge of £5 10s. a year for the endowment of the minister. Ten years later the present chapel was built; it contains a monument to the Willoughbys of Parham, who were concerned in its erection. Unitarian doctrine gradually prevailed in the latter part of the 18th century, and the building is now a recognized Unitarian Chapel.¹⁰⁹

The grammar school was founded in 1566.¹¹⁰

⁹¹ *Bury Classis* (Chet. Soc.), i, 8-10, &c.; ii, 213; there were various charges against him of want of ordination, neglect of his charge, kneeling down on coming into the desk and pulpit, keeping 'profane company,' &c.

⁹² *Ibid.* i, 42, &c.; ii, 265; afterwards of Newton Heath.

⁹³ *Ibid.* i, 99, &c.: 'a godly, orthodox, and painful minister,' according to the *Commonwealth Ch. Surv.* of 1650 (p. 35). He removed to Stretford.

⁹⁴ *Bury Classis*, ii, 148, 149, 205.

⁹⁵ *Irvine, Rivington*, 73. He was ejected in 1662.

⁹⁶ *Bury Classis*, ii, 214.

⁹⁷ It is possible that he continued to minister as a Nonconformist, with the connivance of the bishop and others in authority; see *Irvine*, op. cit. 74. For his will, *ibid.* 175.

⁹⁸ Newton died in 1682, and his successor, according to Calamy, was the foregoing John Walker, a Presbyterian, ejected from Newton Heath in 1662; *ibid.* 76. He is said to have died in 1684, and to have had a son John, also a minister in Rivington; see his will, *ibid.* 181.

⁹⁹ *Ibid.* 77; he does not occur in the visitation lists of 1691 and 1696, so that his stay was very brief.

¹⁰⁰ *Ibid.* 77; he had been curate of Ringley.

¹⁰¹ *Ibid.* 78; previously vicar of Mottram, Cheshire.

¹⁰² *Ibid.* 79.

¹⁰³ *Ibid.* The Church P. at Chester begin with him.

¹⁰⁴ *Ibid.* In 1778 he reported that there were in his parish, out of sixty-eight families in all, twenty-seven families of Presbyterians (one a gentleman, viz. Andrews), one Quaker, four families of Methodists, and none of other denominations. There was an unlicensed meeting-house.

¹⁰⁵ *Irvine, Rivington*, 81.

¹⁰⁶ *Ibid.*

¹⁰⁷ *Ibid.* 82; there was a contested election, accompanied by much unseemly conduct, and it was thought better to ask the bishop's nomination at the next vacancy.

¹⁰⁸ *Ibid.* 82.

¹⁰⁹ A full account, with a view and a list of the ministers and description of the monuments, is given in Mr. Irvine's work, 90-111; see also Nightingale, *Lancs. Nonconf.* iii, 81-98. There is a library, begun in 1821. Some efforts of the Methodists are narrated in the latter work, 97.

¹¹⁰ *End. Char. Rep. for Bolton*, 1904, ii, 31; a summary of the statutes made by Bishop Pilkington, the founder, is given. These statutes were also printed by Mr. Septimus Tebay, then head master, in 1864. Since 1875 the school has been the Rivington and Blackrod Grammar School. See also Irvine,

ANGLEZARKE

Andelevesarewe, 1202; Milafosharh 1212 (an error of transcription); Anlauesargh, 1225; Anlewesearche, Anlawesaregh, 1246; Alaseharghe, 1288; Anelesargh, Anelesaregh, Anlesarath, Anlesaragth, 1292; Anlaghesarghe, 1302; Anlasargh, 1351; Anlazarghe, 1559.

The greater part of this township is a high moorland area, a spur of the eastern hills 1,000 ft. high projecting into the centre, from which point the surface descends to the north, west, and south. The area is 2,793 acres,¹ and the measurement about 2½ miles from east to west, by something less than 2 miles across. The greater part of the western border is occupied by one of the reservoirs of the Liverpool Waterworks, formed in 1847-57; the Yarrow reservoir, to the east, was formed in 1868-77. The population in 1901 numbered 93.

Almost the only road is that along the western border from Rivington to Heapey. There is no village of Anglezarke, but a hamlet called White Coppice lies in the north-west corner, and another called Hemphshaws in the south-east.

There are numerous quarries, worked and disused; the stone is largely used for road-making. Lead mines were formerly worked here.² There is a cotton-mill at White Coppice.

The moors abound with grouse.

In 1666 only twenty-five hearths were liable to the tax. Robert Shaw's house, with five, was the largest.³

The earliest record of *ANGLEZARKE MANOR* shows that it was a dependency of the fee or barony of Manchester, and that Albert Grelley the younger⁴ gave 2 oxgangs of land—apparently the whole of it—to Robert son of Henry de Lathom to hold by annual rent of 3s.⁵ The Lathom family and their successors, the Stanleys, Earls of

Rivington, 112-22. A list of the first scholars is printed in Tebay's *Statutes*, and in Col. Pilkington's *Pilkington Family*; see also *Local Glean. Lancs. and Ches.* ii, 107. The school library is described in *Old Lancs. Libraries* (Chet. Soc.), 189, 106.

¹ The *Census Rep.* of 1901 gives 2,792, including 167 of inland water.

² A description of the lead mines in 1789 is in *Trans. Lit. and Phil. Soc. Manch.* iii, 598.

For a dispute as to the lead mine in 1694-5 see *Hist. MSS. Com. Rep.* xiv, App. iv, 356, 380.

³ Subs. R. Lancs. bdle. 250, no. 9.

⁴ *Lancs. Inq. and Extents* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), i, 58; the date of the grant is between 1162 and 1180. In the Manchester Extent of 1322 the tenants of Anglezarke were among others in the upper bailiwick charged with providing food and lodging for the master serjeant; *Mamecestre* (Chet. Soc.), ii, 374.

⁵ *Inq. and Extents*, loc. sup. cit. In 1202 an oxgang of land in Anglezarke was assigned as dower to Amabel, daughter of Simon, by Richard de Lathom; and in 1224 the 2 oxgangs in Anglezarke were included in a grant of Richard de Lathom to Simon de Grubbehead; *Final Conc.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), i, 11, 45.

Derby, down to about 1600 continued to hold it⁶ by the same tenure, and it was described as a manor.

The priory of Burscough held land in the township by grant of Robert son of Richard de Lathom.⁷ The Hospitallers also had lands there.⁸

The Standishes of Duxbury held lands of the Earls of Derby,⁹ and in the 17th century and later their estate is called the manor of Anglezarke, they having purchased the Stanley rights.¹⁰

With other parts of the Standish of Duxbury estates it was in 1898 purchased by Mr. Percival Sumner Mayhew, but has recently been acquired by the Corporation of Liverpool in order to protect the Rivington water supply.¹¹

Other families that occur are the Anglezarkes,¹² Bulloughs,¹³ Shaws,¹⁴ Broadhursts,¹⁵ and Willis.¹⁶

George Shaw of High Bullough was a benefactor of the poor of the district.¹⁷

⁶ In 1246 Robert de Lathom was among the defendants in a claim for land which the plaintiffs alleged to be in Rivington; the jury decided it was in Anglezarke; Assize R. 404, m. 9. In 1302 Adam son of William de Sidale claimed a messuage and lands in Sidale in Anglezarke against Robert de Lathom and others, mostly Lathom people; but Robert adduced a quitclaim by the plaintiff; Assize R. 418, m. 9 d.

Robert de Lathom in 1320 held Anglezarke of the lord of Manchester by 3s. rent and pature; *Mamecestre*, ii, 290.

In 1334 Sir Thomas de Lathom, Thomas de Thornton, Robert del Bulhalgh, and William de Anderton were convicted of having disseised Richard son of Adam de Rivington of common of pasture in Anglezarke; *Coram Rege* R. 297, m. 94. For grant of free warren see *Cal. Pat.* 1338-40, p. 396. Thomas de Lathom had in or before 1343 leased 'Bronuleshol' and other lands in Anglezarke to Hugh de Swinley and Roger his son at a rent of 30s.; John de Swinley was the previous tenant; *Add. MS.* 32106, no. 1179. Messuages and lands in Anglezarke were included in a settlement of the estate of the younger Sir Thomas de Lathom in 1376; *Final Conc.* ii, 190.

In 1473 Thomas Lord Stanley held the lordship of Anglezarke with its appurtenances of the lord of Manchester by rendering pature, suit of court, and a rent of 3s.; *Mamecestre*, iii, 478. Thomas, Earl of Derby, in 1521 also held the manors of Childwall, Rainford, and Anglezarke of the Lord La Warre by fealty and the rent of 3s.; *Duchy of Lanc. Inq. p.m.* v, no. 68. A similar statement is made in the inquisition after the death of Ferdinando, Earl of Derby, in 1595; *Add. MS.* 32104, fol. 425b. Anglezarke does not appear again among the Derby manors, so that it was probably sold about that time.

An account of the receipts during the minority of Edward, third earl, in 1523-4, shows that the free tenants—James Bulhalgh, Lawrence Ash, and Thomas Broadhurst—paid 15s. 1d.; the tenants at will, including John Lascelles for the capital messuage called Sidale, paid £8 2s. 8d.; the mine of lead and the delph of millstones had not produced any profit, but a new rent of 20d. had arisen from a water-mill on the Blake Brook, erected by the tenant at his own expense, and that timber had been supplied from the lord's wood. No courts had been held. The

3s. rent had been paid to Lord La Warre. Broadcarr, Lee, Lowfield, Elmhaws, and Getelinghurst were field names; Derby Rent Roll in possession of the Earl of Lathom.

⁷ *Dep. Keeper's Rep.* xxxvi, App. 204; also Burscough Reg. fol. 50. The grant was made between 1232 and 1240. The land was called Swinleyhurst, on the northern border. Prior Benedict and the canons afterwards granted Swinleyhurst to Randle de Heapy and his heirs at a rent of 3s.; Randle had held under the Lathoms. The bounds went along the Shaw of Ledewarden, the cliff, the deepest part of the carr, Swinley Syke to the west part in Whithenley Brook, Ledewarden Brook as it divides Anglezarke and Wheelton, and so to the starting point. The easements included mast in the wood of Anglezarke, fuel, and timber for building; *ibid.* fol. 27.

In 1278 Peter de Heapy was nonsuited in his claim for common of pasture in Anglezarke against Robert de Lathom; Assize R. 1268, m. 12 d.

⁸ *Plac. de Quo Warr.* (Rec. Com.), 375. Sir Thomas de Lathom, who died in 1370, held tenements in Anglezarke of the Hospital of Jerusalem, paying 12d. a year; they were worth £6; *Duchy of Lanc. Inq. p.m.* ii, no. 7, and another version in *Lancs. Inq. p.m.* (Chet. Soc.), i, 17.

The land in Anglezarke was perhaps held about 1540 by Lord Mounteagle, who held the Hospitallers' land in Blackrod. Roger Asshaw, who died in the year named, held two messuages, &c., in Anglezarke of Sir Thomas Stanley, Lord Mounteagle, by a rent of 10d.; *Duchy of Lanc. Inq. p.m.* viii, no. 11.

⁹ *Inq. p.m.* Thomas Standish, who died in 1599; the lands were held in socage by fealty only; *Duchy of Lanc. Inq. p.m.* xvii, no. 54. This estate was probably that of Burscough Priory, derived from the Heapy family. Some disputes between the Standishes and Tootells are referred to in *Ducatus Lanc.* (Rec. Com.), ii, 248; iii, 150, 385.

¹⁰ *Lancs. Inq. p.m.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), iii, 397, 400; Alexander Standish held the reversion of the manor after the death of Alice, Countess of Derby. She was widow of Ferdinando, the fifth earl, and died in 1636. The manor of Anglezarke is regularly named in the Standish of Duxbury settlements; e.g. *Pal. of Lanc. Feet of F. bdle.* 104, no. 10; 155, m. 165, &c. In 1706 the manor was the subject of an agreement between Sir Thomas Standish and Sir Thomas Stanley and his wife Margaret, mother of the

LOSTOCK

Lostoc, 1212; Lastok, 1279; Lostok, 1292, and generally; Lostoke, 1301; Lostock, Lostocke, xvi cent.

Lostock township stretches over 2 miles from east to west, and has an area of 1,520 acres.¹ It lies between higher lands to the north and south, and through the slight depression flows the Croal eastward. The boundaries appear arbitrary, except for the Red Moss which separates it from Blackrod, and a brook tributary to the Croal which divides it from Heaton. The principal hamlet is Chew Moor,² in the south-east corner; another is Lostock Hall Fold, near the centre of the northern border, where a suburb of Bolton is growing up. The population was 852 in 1901.

The township was included in the borough and township of Bolton, by the Extension Act of 1898, and thus ceased to exist.

former Sir Thomas; *ibid.* bdle. 257, m. 61; in addition to the manor there were twelve messuages, two water grain mills, and lands including 1,400 acres of furze and heath, &c.

¹¹ Information of Mr. Mayhew.

¹² John de Anglezarke and Roger son of John de Anglezarke were engaged in various suits respecting their tenements in 1292; Assize R. 408, m. 57, 10 d.

A pedigree in Kuerden MSS. I. fol. 74b connects the Bulhalgh family with the Anglezarkes.

¹³ Robert son of Roger de Bulhalgh was a plaintiff in 1351-2 against Sir Thomas de Lathom and Roger de Chisenhale (Chisnall) respecting lands in Anglezarke; *Duchy of Lanc. Assize R.* i, m. 2.

Richard Bulhalgh and Thomas Shaw were in 1538 tenants of the Countess of Derby; *Duchy Plead.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), ii, 94-5.

The name is spelt Bolehalgh in 1334.

¹⁴ John Shaw of Anglezarke was a recusant in 1619; *Manch. Quar. Sess.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), i, 82. Robert Shaw, 'gent.', headed the protestors in Anglezarke in 1641-2; W. F. Irvine, *Rivington*, 46, where the full list is printed. There was also George Shaw, 'yeoman,' the benefactor. John and George Shaw were sons of Lawrence Shaw of High Bulhalgh, as appears by their monuments in Rivington Church; *ibid.* 84, 85. A pedigree was recorded in 1664; *Dugdale, Visit.* (Chet. Soc.), p. 262.

¹⁵ Henry de Broadhurst had land in the township in 1447; *Pal. of Lanc. Plea R.* 7, m. 6b. The Earl of Derby in 1559 purchased three messuages, &c., from Oliver Broadhurst; *Pal. of Lanc. Feet of F. bdle.* 21, m. 18.

¹⁶ Thomas Willis in 1694 appears to have acquired lands in Anglezarke, &c., formerly belonging to Thomas Ainscough, clerk; *Exch. Dep.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), 84. Land in the same place was included in a settlement by Daniel Willis and Anne his wife in 1732; *Pal. of Lanc. Feet of F. bdle.* 310, m. 85.

¹⁷ *End. Char. Rep. for Bolton*, 1904, pp. 25, 42-49.

¹ 1522, including 7 of inland water, according to the *Census Rep.* 1901.

² Elizabeth Leigh complained that she, being a tenant of William Hulton, had put her oxen to graze on Lostock Moss, alias 'Chow More,' and that the bailiff of Andrew Barton had driven them away; *Pal. of Lanc. Sessional Papers*, bdle. 1, temp. Hen. VIII.

A HISTORY OF LANCASHIRE

The principal road is that crossing the township near the centre to join the roads from Bolton to Horwich and from Bolton to Chorley, on the north and south respectively. The Lancashire and Yorkshire Company's line from Bolton to Preston runs west through the centre, and the same company's line from Bolton to Wigan crosses the south-east corner.

In 1666 William Yate had to pay the tax for twenty hearths in Lostock Hall; there were only thirty other hearths in the township liable, and no house had more than three hearths.³

During the 12th century *LOSTOCK MANOR* was with the adjoining Rumworth a member of the Manchester barony, and the two were by the younger Albert Grelley given to Thomas de Pierpoint as the third part of a knight's fee. Together they were assessed as three ploughlands, Lostock by itself being one.⁴ Richard de Pier-

point, the heir of Thomas, held both in 1205,⁵ and probably in 1212; he was a benefactor of Cockersand Abbey.⁶ Afterwards they descended to Thomas de Pierpoint,⁷ who was twice married; by his first wife Margery he left a daughter Alice, and by his second, Margaret, a son and heir Richard and a daughter Ameria. Richard succeeded his father, but died without issue; whereupon Ameria, wife of William de Anderton, claimed as sole heir of her brother, the elder sister, being only of the half blood, not having a share.⁸ The Hultons succeeded.⁹ Their inheritance was afterwards divided;¹⁰ Lostock became a manor of the Athertons of Atherton,¹¹ and was sold by Sir John Atherton in 1562 to Christopher Anderton.¹²

The new owner, son of Lawrence Anderton, was a lawyer.¹³ In religion he went with the times, at least externally, being engaged in making a great fortune; but his wife adhered to the Romish faith.¹⁴ He died

³ Subs. R. Lancs. bdle. 250, no. 9.

⁴ *Lancs. Inq. and Extents* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), i, 55; the date lies between 1162 and 1180. Lostock like Rumworth continues to appear among the Manchester manors until the beginning of the 17th century.

⁵ Richard de Pierpoint occurs in the Pipe Roll of 1177-8; probably he was the heir of Thomas; Farrer, *Lancs. Pipe R.* 38. The same or a later Richard, as tenant, in 1205 surrendered to Robert Grelley 40 acres of wood in Lostock and Rumworth, for which he received a gold ring; *Final Conc.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), i, 24; Curia Regis R. 33. The name of the tenant in 1212 is not recorded, but Richard de Pierpoint was one of the jury; *Lancs. Inq. and Extents*, i, 2. He also had a portion of Ince near Wigan; *ibid.* 74.

⁶ His grant included 'all the buildings of Robert the Clerk of Lostock,' and the bounds were marked by crosses and other signs; the Blacklache and the Gnat Brook are named; *Cockersand Chertul.* (Chet. Soc.), ii, 716.

⁷ Richard de Pierpoint held it in 1242; *Lancs. Inq. and Extents*, i, 154. Thomas de Pierpoint occurs in 1254; *ibid.* 193.

⁸ This statement of the descent is given in a plea of 1283 and 1285 by the elder daughter Alice; and again in one of 1314, by which Richard Smult and Alice his wife claimed a moiety of the manors of Lostock and Rumworth, Alice being a daughter and heir of Thomas de Pierpoint who was seised in the time of Edward I. The defendant was Ameria, the other daughter and heir, wife of William son of William de Anderton, and later of Robert del Birks; De Banco R. 50, m. 4 d; 60, m. 70; 206, m. 232.

Richard son of Thomas de Pierpoint was defendant in 1276; Assize R. 1238, m. 31. As early as 1282 William son of William de Anderton and his wife Ameria were in possession of the manors; *Lancs. Inq. and Extents*, i, 248. In 1288 a settlement was made of the manor of Lostock by William and Ameria; it was to descend to the latter's heirs; *Final Conc.* i, 164.

At a somewhat earlier date, 1279, William de Anderton claimed a messuage, two mills, two plough-lands, and two oxgangs in Lostock and Rumworth against Robert Grelley and Alexander de Pilkington, both parties claiming under a demise by Thomas de Pierpoint; De Banco R. 28, m. 38 d; 30, m. 34. The other four

oxgangs were probably held in dower, for in 1292 Cecily wife of John de Bradshaw had dower in Rumworth; Assize R. 408, m. 9; while in 1313 Margery wife of Stephen de Hamerton and widow of Robert de Cunliffe, the feoffee of 1288, claimed dower in both manors; De Banco R. 204, m. 98. William de Anderton was still tenant in 1302; *Lancs. Inq. and Extents*, i, 314.

⁹ By fine in 1310 Ameria, widow of William de Anderton acknowledged the manors to be the right of Richard de Hulton, for which he granted them to Ameria and her issue; in default to revert to Richard and his heirs; *Final Conc.* ii, 4. The meaning seems to be that Ameria, having no children, sold the manors of Lostock and Rumworth to Richard; possibly Richard was her nearest kinsman.

Ten years later Richard de Hulton was found to hold the third part of a knight's fee in Rumworth and Lostock by homage, fealty, and suit of court, worth 3s. 4d. a year; paying 4s. 6d. sake fee and 3s. 6d. castle ward, and giving pature of the sergeants and foresters; *Mamecestre* (Chet. Soc.), ii, 288. Lostock, as one ploughland, contributed a third of the services, and the pature was commuted into an annual payment of 16s.; *ibid.* ii, 377.

¹⁰ Rumworth became part of the estate of the Hultons of Farnworth, as may be seen in the account of that township. They continued to hold lands in Lostock also. John Hulton died in 1487 holding a messuage, 40 acres of land, &c., in Lostock of the lord of Manchester by services not known to the jurors; Duchy of Lanc. Inq. p.m. iii, no. 26. In the case of William Hulton, who died in 1556, the lands in Lostock were regarded as appurtenant to the manor of Rumworth, the old service of the third part of a knight's fee and 4s. 6d. rent being recorded; *ibid.* x, no. 32. The Hultons in 1588 and later years appear to have sold all or most of their lands in Lostock and Rumworth by degrees to Christopher Anderton and his son James; see Anderton of Lostock Evidences (Stonor deeds), no. 49-54, 65; Pal. of Lanc. Feet of F. bdle. 51, m. 17.

¹¹ The origin of the Athertons' estate is not clear. In 1353 Sir William de Atherton and Henry del Halgh were shown to have disseised Thomas son of Margery de Bury of the manor of Lostock in Rumworth. It was found that William son of Alan de Atherton had held the manor, and had granted it to Alex-

ander de Atherton for life, then to Roger de Atherton and his issue male, in default successively to Hugh, John, and Thomas, sons of Roger; the inheritance at last coming to Thomas son of Roger, otherwise son of Margery de Bury, who recovered his seisin; Assize R. 435, m. 29.

The 'manor of Lostock' held by the Athertons in 1414 was the estate of Cockersand Abbey, in which they seem to have succeeded the Lostock family, holding it by the old rent of 12d.; Sir William Atherton held two-thirds in the year mentioned, and Margaret the widow of Robert Atherton held the other third, the total value being £12; *Lancs. Inq. p.m.* (Chet. Soc.), i, 107; *Cockersand Chertul.* loc. sup. cit. Though this estate may have given the title of manor, the Athertons also held about two-thirds of that part of Lostock which was held of the barons of Manchester, for in 1473 out of the sake fee of 18d. John Atherton of Atherton contributed 11d. and also did suit to the court of Manchester, &c.; *Mamecestre*, 480. In the inquisition after the death of John Atherton, who died in 1488, the Cockersand estate is not mentioned, and he is stated to have held the manor of Lostock and lands in Rumworth and Heaton of Sir Thomas West, Lord La Warre, as of his manor of Manchester, by fealty and the rent of 11d.; the clear yearly value was £10; Duchy of Lanc. Inq. p.m. iii, no. 39. Similar statements are made in the later inquisitions; *ibid.* v, no. 12; viii, no. 40.

¹² Anderton Evidences, no. 16-19, 21; Pal. of Lanc. Feet of F. bdle. 24, m. 96. The sale included the manor of Lostock *alias* Lostock Hall, and messuages and lands in Lostock, Rumworth, and Heaton, with water-mill, dovecote, &c. The manor was included in a settlement made in 1583; *ibid.* bdle. 45, m. 25.

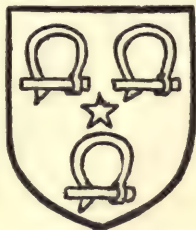
¹³ The parentage of Lawrence Anderton is not known, but in the marriage settlement of 1583 the remainders, after Christopher's issue and the heirs of his father Lawrence, were to William Anderton of Anderton and Peter his brother, and then to Anderton of Clayton; Pal. of Lanc. Plea R. 255, m. 7-9; Anderton Evidences, no. 46. Similar remainders were ordained in 1592; *ibid.* no. 64.

For an account of the family, see T. E. Gibson, *Lydiat Hall*, 49-83, 165-6.

¹⁴ *Lydiat Hall*, 57-8, where is quoted the statement of one George Dingley, a priest who turned informer: 'Mrs. Anderton of Lostock, is lately [1592] a

at Lostock 5 May 1592, holding the manors of Lostock, Heaton-under-Horwich, and Tyldesley, and messuages, mills, and lands in these townships and many others in South Lancashire. James Anderton, the son and heir, was thirty-five years of age.¹⁵ He was 'backward in religion,' and 'his wife a recusant.'¹⁶ He obtained the rectories of Eccles and Deane.¹⁷ He had no children, and his estates on his death in 1613 passed to a younger brother Christopher,¹⁸ who died in 1619.¹⁹ In 1615 the two-thirds of Christopher's manors and lands sequestered for his recusancy were granted by the king on lease to Patrick Malde and Henry Gibb.²⁰ In the inquisitions cited the manors and lands in Lostock, Heaton, and Horwich are not distinguished, the whole being held of the lord of Manchester in socage by a rent of 22s. 7d.; the knight's service had been placed upon Rumworth alone.²¹

Early in the 17th century a secret printing-press at Lostock Hall issued a number of Roman Catholic books, devotional and controversial. It was afterwards removed to Birchley, near Wigan.²²



ANDERTON of Lostock.
Sable three shackles
argent, a mullet or for
difference.

widow of great wealth. She heard my mass and sermon at Lostock, and sent me money to her son James'; from S.P. Dom. Eliz. cclxiii, 70.

¹⁵ Duchy of Lanc. Inq. p.m. xvi, no. 41.
¹⁶ *Lydiat Hall*, 250, quoting S.P. Dom. Eliz. cccxxv, 4. Being one of the Duchy officials, and a farmer of outlaws' goods, James Anderton must have conformed to the statutory worship. He is stated to have been reconciled to the Roman Church by Fr. Holland, but the story is doubtful; Foley, *Rec. S. J.* v, 371; see Gillow, *Bibl. Dict. of Engl. Cath.* i, 32. The informer above quoted stated: 'James Anderton did at the same time [as his mother] hear my mass and relieved me; he is of great living and I know not whether he be put amongst the rest'; *Lydiat Hall*, 259, from S.P. Dom. Eliz. cclxiii, 70.

¹⁷ Anderton Evidences, no. 82-3, 90-2. The family also farmed the rectory of Bolton, of the Bishop of Chester; Scholes and Pimblett, *Bolton*, 109.

¹⁸ *Lancs. Inq. p.m.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), ii, 25. In this are recited the settlement of 1583, and a later one of 1611. James Anderton had in the former year married Margaret daughter of Edward Tyldesley of Morleys; he had brothers Thurstan, Christopher (his successor), and Roger (of Birchley); Anderton Evidences, no. 46, 64; Pal. of Lanc. Plea R. 255, m. 7. James Anderton had continued to consolidate his estates in Lostock and Horwich; Anderton Evidences, no. 53-4, 65, 67-8, 70, 76.

¹⁹ *Lancs. Inq. p.m.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), ii, 161. Estates acquired by Christopher Anderton in Althorne in Essex and Clitheroe and its neighbourhood are included.

Christopher was over fifty years of age at his brother's death in 1613; *ibid.* 27. He seems to have paid a flying visit to Douay in 1586; *Douay Diaries*, 210-11. In 1600 he married Anne daughter of

Edward Scarisbrook; Anderton Evidences, no. 80.

²⁰ Pat. 13 Jas. I, pt. xxii.

²¹ Compare the account in *Mamecestre*, 480, where the knight's service appears to have been considered due from Lostock and Rumworth jointly (1473), and the above-cited inquisition after the death of William Hulton (1556).

²² J. Gillow, in Philips's *Old Halls of Lancs.* 63-8; *Bibl. Dict. of Engl. Cath.* i, 35-8.

²³ Inq. p.m. of 1619 above referred to. By this marriage he had a daughter Margaret, who died unmarried. His second wife was Alethea daughter of Sir Francis Smith of Wootton Wawen, and sister of Sir Charles Smith, a zealous Royalist, created Baron and Viscount Carrington in 1643; G.E.C. *Complete Peerage*; Dugdale, *Visit.* (Chet. Soc.), 7.

²⁴ Douay Diaries quoted in *Lydiat Hall*, 61. At the time he was in ward to the king; *Misc.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), i, 160. In 1632 he paid £30 on refusing knighthood; *ibid.* i, 223. It appears that in 1638 two-thirds of his estates were in the king's hands for his recusancy; Pat. 14 Chas. I, pt. xxxviii.

²⁵ Captain Anderton of Lostock, under the orders of Lord Derby, led the unsuccessful attack on Bolton in Feb. 1643; *Civil War Tracts* (Chet. Soc.), 83. He with other recusants had in 1642 petitioned the king to be allowed to take up arms in his cause; *ibid.* 38-9.

²⁶ *Roy. Comp. Papers* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), i, 36-54. The witnesses deposed that at the time of the battle on Westhoughton Common in 1642 there were armed men in Mr. Anderton's house at Lostock; that he was at the battle of Middlewich, assisting the Royalists, but not, apparently, armed; and that he had acted as a royal commissioner at Liverpool, after the capture of the town in 1644. Other witnesses deposed to the statements in the text. The statement that he was killed in the defence of Greenhalgh Castle

Christopher Anderton left a son and heir of the same name, who was nearly twelve years of age at his father's death, but had already been married to Agnes daughter of John Preston, of the same age as himself.²⁷ Three years later the heir went to Douay, but stayed less than eighteen months, being 'not inclined to study.'²⁸ On the outbreak of the Civil War he, like others of the old religion, espoused the royal cause,²⁹ but appears to have grown tired of it, and was imprisoned for refusing to act for the king; he then fled into Wales and escaped to France. His estates were, however, sequestered by the Parliament 'for popery and delinquency,' and he had not regained possession at his death on 7 July 1650. His widow Alethea and the son and heir Francis also petitioned the Commonwealth authorities.³⁰ Francis, having for the time renounced his religion, had the estates granted to him.³¹ He acquired the manor of Anderton in 1668,³² and was created a baronet in 1677, and dying in Paris the following year³³ was buried there in the chapel of the English Benedictines, St. Edmund's.³⁰

Charles, the eldest son, in 1675 married Margaret daughter and heir of Lawrence Ireland of Lydiat.³¹ After his father's death he resided at Lostock,³² and his widow and then his son Francis continued there till about 1715, when owing to the forfeiture the hall ceased to be the family residence, and was partly taken down a century later.³³ The manor continued in the hands of the Andertons and Blundells of Ince till

in 1645 is erroneous, as in Gillow, *Bibl. Dict.* i, 30.

²⁷ *Cal. of Com. for Compounding*, iii, 2126. His mother was a consistent recusant, and refusing the oath of abjuration was allowed only a third of her estates; she applied to contract for the remainder; *ibid.*; *Roy. Comp. Papers*, i, 53. For the persecutions they suffered from the Parliamentary authorities, see Foley, *Rec. S. J.* iii, 780-1.

²⁸ Anderton Evidences, no. 131. He also purchased Ladyhalgh in Anderton; *ibid.* no. 126, 139.

²⁹ *Lydiat Hall*, 62; G.E.C. *Complete Baronetage*, iv, 92. In 1654 Francis married Elizabeth daughter and co-heir of Sir Charles Somerset of Troye, Monmouth, when a settlement of Lostock and other manors was made; Anderton Evidences, no. 123; Pal. of Lanc. Feet of F. bdlc. 156, m. 174. In 1664 he recorded the pedigree quoted above at Dugdale's visitation; his own age is given as thirty-six, and his son Charles's as seven. Francis, one of his sons, became a Jesuit, and died in 1723; Foley, *Rec. S. J.* vii, 10.

³⁰ Note of Mr. H. Ince Anderton, citing Weldon, *Chronol. Notes*, 216; *N. ana Q.* (3rd ser.), vii, 130.

³¹ Anderton D. no. 141. A settlement of Lostock, Anderton, Heaton, Horwich, Rumworth, and Horrocksford was made in 1685; *ibid.* no. 143.

³² *Lydiat Hall*, 63. The will of Sir Charles, made in 1691, mentions Dame Margaret his wife, his son Charles, daughters Mary, Elizabeth, Ann; brothers Christopher, Francis, John; uncles Stephen, Thurstan, and Bruno; Anderton D. no. 146. A son James, also mentioned in the will, was a Jesuit, and died at St. Omer's in 1710; Foley, *Rec. S. J.* vii, 10.

Sir Charles was buried under the communion table in Bolton Church, but no monument was allowed by the authorities, Scholes and Pimblett, *Bolton*, 157-8.

³³ *Lydiat Hall*, 64.

A HISTORY OF LANCASHIRE

1810, when by the will of Henry Blundell the Lostock estates were bequeathed to his daughters, Katherine wife of Thomas Stonor of Stonor, and Elizabeth wife of Stephen Tempest of Broughton.⁸⁴ The estates were divided, and Lostock was joined with Anderton as part of the Stonor share and descended with it, but has recently been sold by Mr. Charles Joseph Stonor.⁸⁵ No manor is claimed.

The partition of the Lostock estates was made in 1819 under a private Act,^{85a} but possession was delayed by lawsuits until 1830. In 1821 John Anderton, a publican of Colne, made claim to them, alleging that he was heir under a settlement by Sir Charles Anderton in 1685, by which there was a remainder to a brother John. Plaintiff was brother of Francis Anderton (d. 1804) and son of a John Anderton, who was son of the Rev. John Anderton (d. 1742), supposed by the plaintiff to have been the brother of Sir Charles, and to have been disinherited because he became a Protestant. It was proved, however, that he was a son of Stephen Anderton of Hardhill in Clitheroe, and therefore a cousin, not brother, of Sir Charles.^{85b}

Of Lostock Hall only the gatehouse remains. The hall is described by Britton in 1807 as 'formed of wooden beams and plaster. Over the entrance door are the initials of the persons who lived here, with the date when it was built, C A D 1563. Most of the rooms are wainscoted with many panels.' The drawing in Philips's *Views of Old Halls of Lancashire and Cheshire* shows a half-timbered house with four overhanging timber gables in the principal front, the lower portion built in either stone or brick. Another of Philips's drawings in the same book shows three gables only, the large southern one having presumably been destroyed. These sketches can, however, only be relied on as giving a fair general idea of the appearance of the house, as his drawing of the gatehouse is wrong in many particulars. The hall, which had long been used as a farm-house, was partly pulled down about 1816, and finally disappeared some eight years later.

The gatehouse, which stood at some little distance east of the hall, is still in existence. It is a stone building of three stories with a staircase tower at its north-west angle. Its main front, which is of ashlar, faces east, and is about 45 ft. in length and 33 ft. high, the depth from front to back being about 22 ft. 6 in. In the ground stage is a centre archway, and above it in the two upper stages mullioned and transomed windows of eight lights each, the archway and windows being flanked on each stage by pairs of widely-spaced columns. Those in the ground stage are of the Tuscan order, and the others of the Ionic and Corinthian orders respectively. Between each

stage are wide strings taking the form of cornice, frieze, and architrave, and breaking out over the columns, the cornices only continued as strings all round the building. The detail of the whole composition is poor, but it shows a far more pronounced Renaissance spirit than is usually found in this part of Lancashire. The gateway is now built up and a modern doorway inserted. There were originally no windows on the ground floor, but two modern sash windows have been introduced between the columns, one on each side. Over the large window on the first floor is a square panel with the arms of Anderton surmounted by helm, crest, and mantling, and over the second floor window is a similar panel with a shield bearing the royal arms of Queen Elizabeth, with the date 1591 and the royal initials E.R. The upper cornice is crowned with a scalloped parapet with traces of finials on the alternate crenels. The frieze of the second order is ornamented with hollow flutes, and the others are plain. The other three sides of the building are faced with thin coursed rubble. The west arch of the gateway is also built up, but otherwise this face of the building preserves a good deal of its original appearance, having six mullioned windows, the lower ones with hood-moulds. On the south side the original windows remain on the first and second floors, but sash windows have been inserted on the ground story. On the north side the original window on the ground floor is built up, but those to the first and second floors remain. The staircase wing at the north-west corner is built of rough thin-coursed stones and has its original windows; but the top of the tower, which formerly seems to have terminated in an octagonal turret with conical roof, has disappeared, and it is now finished with a plain pent roof from the level of the upper cornice. The original chimney-stacks, too, have disappeared, and have been replaced by plain modern shafts. The roof is covered with lead. There is a range of buildings beyond the staircase tower on the north-west corner of the house extending westward, but this was erected as late as 1810. The gatehouse is now used as a farm-house, and the interior has nothing of interest; the original gateway, which is 7 ft. wide, is thrown into the house, partly forming an entrance lobby. On the frieze immediately over the gateway was, till recently, a lead panel with the initials S. F. A. and the date 1712, now nailed against a wooden outbuilding on the south side of the house. It measures 16 in. by 12 in., and looks like the front of a spout-head.

A portion of Lostock descended, with other Hulton estates, to the Radcliffes and Bartons of Smithills in Halliwell.⁸⁶

⁸⁴ Details of the descent will be found in the accounts of Lydiate and Ince Blundell. During the life of Sir Francis Anderton, who died in 1760, the Lostock estates remained in the hands of the Crown, he having participated in the rebellion of 1715; *Lydiate Hall*, 80; *Lancs. and Ches. Rec.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), i, 173.

⁸⁵ A large number of documents illustrating the descent of the manor will be found in the Piccoppe MSS. (Chet. Lib.), iii, fol. 418, &c.

^{85a} 57 Geo. III, cap. 29.

^{85b} Information of Mr. H. Ince Anderton, citing Chancery proceedings 1800-42, Sewell 271—Anderton v. Wilbraham.

The Rev. John Anderton had four children: Francis (1730-1802), unmarried; John (1733-76), named in the text; Anne, and Catherine (married — Duckworth).

⁸⁶ Ralph de Radcliffe died in 1406 holding messuages, &c., in Lostock and Halliwell, of Lord La Warre; Towneley MS. DD, no. 1504. In 1473 Ralph Radcliffe held a parcel of Lostock of the lord of Manchester, paying 7d. as his share of the sake fee, and joining with John Atherton to pay the 14d. due for castle ward; *Mamecestre*; iii, 480. Ralph Radcliffe died in 1485 holding lands in Rumworth, Lostock, &c., of Thomas Lord La Warre by the rent of 12s. 3d. in all; Duchy of

Lanc. Inq. p.m. iii, no. 12. The separate service of 7d. due from Lostock is stated in the inquisition of his successors Andrew and Robert Barton, who died in 1549 and 1580 respectively; *ibid.* ix, no. 27; xiv, no. 24. In 1612 the estate was described as the capital messuage called the Moss Hall, with demesne lands occupied with it, &c., held of Sir Nicholas Mosley in socage by a rent of 7d., and worth clear £5 5s. 4d. a year; *Lancs. Inq. p.m.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), i, 209, 211.

John Barton, the successor of Ralph Radcliffe, granted, by his will in 1513, a certain tenement in Lostock to one of his feoffees, Richard Urmston, for life, 'in



LOSTOCK HALL

In the early pleadings a family surnamed Lostock occurs.³⁷ In later times there does not seem to have been any important freeholder except the Andertons and their successors.³⁸

Chew Moor was inclosed under an Act passed in 1807.³⁹

The Wesleyans have a chapel at Chew Moor. The Moravians at one time had a station there.

A domestic chapel served by Jesuits was maintained at Lostock most of the time the Andertons resided there, and was used by the adherents of the Roman faith in the district.⁴⁰

BLACKROD

Blakerode, 1200, and commonly; Blacode, 1220.

The township of Blackrod extends for 3 miles from north-west to south-east. The area is 2,388½ acres.¹ The highest ground, about 520 ft., is near the centre, where the church and village are situated. The ground slopes away to the north-east and north-west, the lowest ground being in the western corner. The River Douglas and an affluent form the boundaries on three sides; the line of separation from West-houghton appears to be arbitrary; the Red Moss occupies the eastern corner and divides Lostock from Blackrod. Huyton or Highton lies on the northern boundary, while Arley—famous for its coal²—is the western part of the township. The population in 1901 was 3,875.

The principal road is that through the centre of the township, leading from Bolton to Chorley and Preston. On its way north-west it passes the hamlet of Scot Lane End, the village of Blackrod, and the hamlet of Chauntry Brow. There are cross-roads leading to Horwich and Anderton on one side, and to Aspull, Haigh, and Standish on the other. The London and

North-Western and Lancashire and Yorkshire Companies' joint line from Wigan to Adlington passes along the north-west boundary, by which is also the Lancaster and Wigan Canal. The Lancashire and Yorkshire Company's line from Preston to Bolton passes along the north-eastern boundary and has a station at Blackrod, from which a line to Horwich branches off; to the south another branch leads to the Wigan and Manchester line, and has a station on the boundary called Hilton House.

A fair is held on the Thursday after 12 July. In 1804 there were horse races and a cock-fight at the celebration.³

The soil is clayey, overlying clay; wheat and potatoes are grown. Coal-mines have long been worked and form the principal industry. There were formerly bleach-works, and calico-printing works. Bricks are made.

A vaporous sulphur spring existed at Arley.⁴

A local board was created in 1872,⁵ and it provided for the water supply and drainage of the township.⁶ In 1894 it was transformed into an urban district council of nine members. Gas is supplied by a private company. The cemetery, opened in 1886, is controlled by the district council.

A castle is traditionally said to have stood in the village.⁹ Some ancient dishes and candlesticks were found at Arley in 1803.¹⁰

In 1666 there were in all ninety-nine hearths liable to the tax; the two largest houses had five hearths each.¹¹

The manor of **BLACKROD**, rated at **MANOR** 1 plough-land, was in the first half of the 12th century in the hands of William Peverel, but escheated to the king in 1153.¹² About 1190 it was granted by John, then Count of Mortain, to Hugh le Norreys at a thegnage rent of 20s. a

recompense for his true, diligent, and faithful service'; and land in Horwich to the value of 40s. for a time to enable James, the son of Richard, to pursue his studies at Cambridge, where he obtained a fellowship at St. John's College in 1523; *Duchy of Lanc. Inq. p.m.* iv, no. 82; Baker, *Hist. St. John's Coll.* (ed. Mayor), i, 282.

Roger Urmston of Lostock, who had a son Richard, was living in 1556; *Anderton Evidences*, no. 7.

In 1574 Robert Barton of Smithills granted a lease of the same tenement to Roger son of Richard Urmston for 301 years; *ibid.* no. 32. Richard, the father of Roger, was still living, and had had a mother, Janet; Roger was unmarried and had a brother James, and sisters Margery, Anne, and Margaret.

Roger, son and heir apparent of Richard Urmston, and Christian his wife, in 1594 arranged for the succession of his sons Richard and James, with remainders to the heirs of his sisters Anne, wife of John Leigh, and Margaret, wife of William Brotherton; *ibid.* no. 70. These Urmstons were related to the families of West-leigh and Kinknall in Culcheth; *Lancs. Inq. p.m.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), iii, 433.

Richard Urmston, the son, was in 1625 outlawed for felony, having stolen two sheep. This endangered the lease; but in 1635, Margaret, widow of Roger Urmston of Lostock, and Thomas Anderton of Horwich, made an assignment of the lease, apparently for the benefit of a son John, and daughters Margaret and

Jane; *Anderton Evidences*, no. 111, 115. Christopher Anderton appears to have obtained the lease. Sir Thomas Barton, as heir of the original grantor, appears to have claimed the tenement in 1637, but in 1652 it became the property of Francis Anderton, who in 1668 transferred the lease to his brother Christopher; *ibid.* no. 118-19, 135. In this manner, apparently, the Bartons' estate passed to the Andertons.

In 1735, however, Moss Hall was owned by Richard Clough, and another portion of the estate was held by Ralph Pendlebury; Scholes and Pimblett, *Bolton*, 149.

³⁷ In 1268 Richard de Lostock held the Cockersand estate in the township at a rent of 12d. a year, and ½ mark at death; *Cockersand Chartul.* ii, 717. Annora and Mabel, daughters of Roger de Lostock, in 1291 claimed a tenement against Richard de Redvales; *Assize R.* 1294, m. 8d. The next year Almarica and Mabel, daughters of Roger de Lostock, appeared against William son of William de Anderton, respecting a messuage and land in Lostock, which should have descended to them from their grandfather Robert. The defendant asserted that Robert had granted them to his son Richard and put him in seisin; but the jury admitted the right of the plaintiffs to part of the land, including a place in which was 'the moiety of a grange'; *Assize R.* 408, m. 8d. Ellen, the widow of Roger, was non-suited in a claim for dower; *ibid.* m. 4. Almarica and Mabel made further claims in 1301; *ibid.* 1321, m. 5d.

³⁸ In the Land Tax Return for 1789 [at Preston] Henry Blundell contributed more than half, the vicar of Bolton, Robinson Shuttleworth, and Miss Clough and others contributing smaller amounts.

³⁹ 47 Geo. III, sess. 2, cap. 26.

⁴⁰ *Foley, Rec. S.F.* v, 320, 368-73.

¹ The *Census Rep.* of 1901 gives 2,392 acres, including 22 of inland water.

² The mines are not at present worked.

³ T. Hampson, *Hist. of Blackrod* (1882), 64.

⁴ Baines, *Lancs.* (ed. 1868), i, 581.

⁵ *Lon. Gaz.* 9 July 1872; for borrowing powers see an Act of 1869, 42 & 43 Vict. cap. 43.

⁶ Hampson, *Blackrod*, 66-70.

⁹ The name is preserved. Alan del Castel was a tenant of Hugh le Norreys in 1283; Norris D. (B.M.), no. 1003.

In Hampson, *Blackrod*, it is stated that a former vicar said: 'At this place the remains of an ancient castle, the entrance to which and the foss were plainly discernible within the memory of many who are now alive (1846) . . . Many relics were found in the field in which the edifice was built. A key weighing 1½ lb. and a crown were found' (p. 20).

¹⁰ *Gent. Mag.* Mar. 1803, p. 220.

¹¹ Subs. R. Lancs. bde. 250, no. 9.

¹² *Lancs. Inq. and Extents* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), i, 68, 121. Peverel's forfeiture was the punishment of compassing the death of Ranulf Gernons, Earl of Chester, by poison; Ormerod, *Ches.* (ed. Helsby), i, 25.

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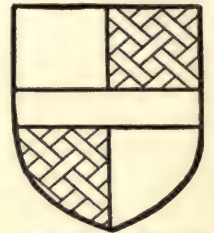
year.¹³ On coming to the throne John confirmed his grant in the same terms,¹⁴ and in 1212 Hugh, called 'de Blackrod,' was returned as tenant.¹⁵ About 1217, William, Earl Ferrers, was placed in possession,¹⁶ but in 1221 the title of Hugh le Norreys was acknowledged.¹⁷ Hugh died soon afterwards, and in 1223 Hugh, his son and heir, became lord of Blackrod,¹⁸ and appears in 1226 as paying the 20s. rent.¹⁹

From Hugh the manors of Blackrod and Haigh appear to have descended to his brother Alan, who in turn was succeeded by his son Hugh. A number of suits between different members of the family establish the succession, and show that Robert de Holland was also concerned in



BRADSHAGH. Argent three mullets between two bendlets sable.

the manor.²⁰ The younger Hugh left a daughter Mabel as his heir,²¹ and she, having no children, diverted the succession to her husband's family. Thus Blackrod came into the possession of Roger de Bradshagh of Westleigh,²² and descended with the latter manor²³ till the division of the Harrington estates at the beginning of the 16th century.²⁴ Of Blackrod one portion was granted to Henry Norris of Speke, who appears to have been the heir male of the family, and rejoiced greatly to recover a part of the inheritance; another part, with the advowson of the chapel, to Richard Hoghton; and a third share to Sir William Stanley of Hooton.²⁵ The Norrises in-



NORRIS. Quarterly argent and gules, in the second and third quarters a fret or, over all a fesse azure.

¹³ Norris D. (B.M.), no. 1002; the seal is broken. Hugh le Norreys also held the adjacent manor of Haigh in Wigan, and in 1194 is called Hugh de Haigh; Farrer, *Lancs. Pipe R.* 78.

¹⁴ *Cal. Rot. Chart.* (Rec. Com.), 26; dated 10 Oct. 1199. Hugh offered 10 marks and two chassours for this confirmation of his charter; *Lancs. Pipe R.* 116. It appears that the old rent of Blackrod was only 10s.; *ibid.* 127.

¹⁵ *Lancs. Inq. and Extents*, i, 68.

¹⁶ *Ibid.* 121-2. William Ferrers married Margaret daughter and heir of William Peverel, and their great-grandson William, Earl Ferrers, was placed in possession of all the Peverel lands soon after the accession of Hen. III; *Rot. Lit. Claus.* (Rec. Com.), i, 318, 414. In 1324 the 'Earl of Ferrers' was supposed to be the mesne lord of Blackrod; Dods. MSS. cxxxi, fol. 37b.

¹⁷ *Rot. Lit. Claus.* i, 480.

¹⁸ He paid 10 marks for his relief, and livery was ordered in May 1223; *Excerpta e Rot. Fin.* (Rec. Com.), i, 103.

¹⁹ *Lancs. Inq. and Extents*, i, 133, 138.

²⁰ In 1278 Margery widow of Hugh le Norreys claimed dower in Blackrod against Hugh son of Margery de Haigh (i.e. no doubt Hugh le Norreys son of Alan), and against Cecily daughter of Hugh le Norreys and Robert le Norreys; Cecily and Robert called Hugh le Norreys of Haigh to warrant them; De Banco R. 24, m. 47; 27, m. 54 d.; 28, m. 35 d.; *Cal. Close*, 1272-9, p. 557. The same plaintiff appeared against Hugh and Henry, sons of Alan le Norreys and Robert de Holland, claiming dower in 30 acres of wood; but the jury found that she had received 2 oxgangs for her third of the wood, except pannage and bees, and the claim failed; Assize R. 1238, m. 33.

In another suit Emma daughter of Hugh le Norreys claimed two messuages, 20 acres of land, &c., against Hugh le Norreys, Robert le Holland, and Roger Thunwath, when Hugh stated that his uncle Hugh had died seised, and he, as nephew and heir, had entered. The jury, however, found that Hugh and Roger had disseised Emma; Robert de Holland was not present; *ibid.* m. 31 d.

About the same time inquiry was made if Hugh le Norreys had held 87 acres of land and 19 acres of meadow, &c., in Blackrod, which had come to his brother Alan's son Hugh le Norreys; and the jury found that the elder Hugh had enfeoffed

Alan son of Hugh le Norreys, Robert le Norreys, Cecily daughter of Hugh le Norreys, and Hugh son of Haynon (Anian) le Waleys; *ibid.* m. 33.

In 1280 Robert le Norreys and Cecily daughter of Hugh le Norreys claimed a tenement in Blackrod against Hugh le Norreys of Haigh; De Banco R. 34, m. 8; R. 36, m. 55.

Hugh le Norreys in 1277 and 1283 made grants to his sister Emma and to Robert son of Alan le Norreys; Norris D. (B. M.), no. 1003-5. The seal shows a fleur de lis, with the legend: + s' HVGONIS NORRAIS.

In 1292 Margery widow of Alan le Norreys (no doubt the Margery de Haigh above named) was non-suited in claims against Henry de Rockeley for dower in certain lands, &c., in Blackrod. It was alleged that Alan son of Hugh le Norreys had granted them to the defendant and his wife Ellen; Assize R. 408, m. 5, 49 d.

For further details of Alan le Norreys see the accounts of Speke, Sutton, and Formby.

²¹ *Final Conc.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), i, 185; ii, 9; settlements of the manors of Haigh and Blackrod in 1298 and 1312 by William de Bradshagh and Mabel his wife.

John de Chisenhale in 1301 and 1302 claimed common of pasture in Blackrod against William de Bradshagh and Mabel his wife; Assize R. 1321, m. 10; R. 418, m. 13.

In 1312 William de Atherton released to Sir William de Bradshagh all claim upon the manor; Norris D. (B.M.), no. 1006.

In 1317 William de Bradshagh, an outlaw, was said to hold the manors of Haigh and Blackrod of Robert de Holland; Kuerden fol. MS. 52.

²² By fine in 1337 between Mabel, widow of William de Bradshagh, and William son of John de Bradshagh the manor was settled on Roger son of Richard de Bradshagh of Westleigh, with remainders to his brothers Adam and Henry, then to Richard, son of John de Bradshagh, and to Hugh son of Robert le Norreys; *Final Conc.* ii, 105.

The official returns seem to conflict with this, for in 1324 Roger de Bradshagh was stated to hold Blackrod for one plough-land by the yearly service of 20s.; while in 1346 Maud (Mabel) de Bradshagh, as heir of Hugh le Norreys, held it in socage by a rent of 20s. and the

usual relief; Dods. MSS. cxxxi, fol. 37b; Add. MS. 32103, fol. 146b.

The descent of this branch of the Bradshagh family is given in the account of Westleigh.

²³ Henry son of Richard de Ince in July 1351 recovered a rent of 10s. in Blackrod, which he claimed against Roger son of Richard de Bradshagh; Duchy of Lanc. Assize R. 1, m. 3.

Roger de Bradshagh in 1356 allowed Hugh de Adlington and others to make an attachment of water for the walk mill in Adlington; Norris D. no. 1008. In 1367 Mabel, widow of Richard de Kighley released to her father, Roger de Bradshagh, all right in the manor; *ibid.* no. 1009.

In 1383-4 it was found that Hugh de Bradshagh held two-thirds of the manor by knight's service and 20s. rent; Dods. MSS. cxxxi.

In 1400 William son of Hugh de Bradshagh made a settlement of the manor, with the reversion of lands held as dower by Margaret widow of Roger de Bradshagh, and Margaret widow of Hugh de Bradshagh. William's wife was named Joan; Norris D. no. 1010, 1011. A further settlement was made in 1414, with remainder to Elizabeth wife of Richard son of Sir James de Harrington; Richard and Elizabeth received a third part of the manor; *Final Conc.* iii, 72. For the marriage covenant see Dods. MSS. cxlix, fol. 33. Sir William de Bradshagh died in the following year, and it was found that he held Blackrod of the king as of his Duchy in socage by the service of 20s. a year; *Lancs. Inq. p.m.* (Chet. Soc.), i, 109-111.

²⁴ It was found in 1445-6 that Sir Richard Harrington held Blackrod in socage, rendering 20s. a year; he held it by the courtesy of England; Duchy of Lanc. Knights' Fees, 2/20. In 1483 Sir William Harrington held the manor.

Sir James Harrington held it at his death in 1497 by the same service; its clear annual value was 40 marks; Duchy of Lanc. Inq. p.m. iii, no. 40. The estates became divisible among his daughters; see *Lancs. Inq. p.m.* (Chet. Soc.), ii, 170.

²⁵ The deed of partition (1507) is among the Norris D. (B.M.).

Sir William Stanley and Anne his wife were to have in Blackrod the messuages, &c., occupied by Gilbert Taylor (Mitten Greaves), and Alexander Vaces (Vaus); the

creased their estate in the township,³⁶ and their 'manor' is named in the 17th century.³⁷ By this time, however, the land had become much divided; no further notice of a manor appears in the records, though the Earl of Crawford and Balcarres is called the lord as heir of the Bradshags of Haigh, who in turn inherited from the Hoghtons.³⁸

rents amounted to 32s. with five capons valued at 2d. each.

To Richard Hoghton and Alice his wife were given the tenements of Robert Ormishaw, John Almon, Nicholas Huyton, Henry Hodgkinson, Christopher Ainscough, Agnes Vaus, John Jackson, John Taylor, Lawrence Jackson, Oliver Browne, Nicholas Almon, Christopher Wood, Nicholas Smith, Roger Caterall, and Elizabeth Rigby. The total rents were £15 6s. 4d., with sixty-seven capons and four hens, and 16d. for 'average' (from one tenant). The advowson of the chapel was included with this share.

Richard and Alice had a son and heir Thomas, whose daughter and heir Jane married Roger Bradshagh of Haigh, and carried the inheritance to this family; Duchy of Lanc. Inq. p.m. xiv, no. 26. The jury did not know the tenure of Blackrod. Thomas Hoghton in 1561 made a grant of part of his estate in Blackrod to Gabriel Hesketh of Aughton; Pal. of Lanc. Feet of F. bdlc. 23, m. 179; see also *Ducatus Lanc.* (Rec. Com.), ii, 227. Gabriel died in 1573, holding the lands of the queen as of her manor of Salford, in socage by a rent of 2s.; Duchy of Lanc. Inq. p.m. xii, no. 32.

Sir Richard Hoghton, of Hoghton, in 1606 sold to Hugh Adlington a messuage, water-mill, &c., in Blackrod, lately held by Richard Shireburne in right of his wife Anne; Add. MS. 32106, no. 753.

Henry Norris and Clemency his wife received the tenements of James Barker, Hugh Watmough, Nicholas Ainscough, wife of Nicholas Heaton, Lawrence Wood and Margaret Hodgkinson, Ewan Vaus, Elise Haworth and John Vaus, Henry and Hugh Vaus, John and Egyan Holme, Gilbert Taylor, and James Catterall. The rents were in all £15 14s. 8d. in money and thirty-six capons; or almost exactly the same as the Hoghton share. From other deeds it appears that Clemency Norris in her widowhood resided at Park Hall in Blackrod; thus in 1551, describing herself as 'of Park Hall,' she made a lease to John Vause. Her name appears in the subsidy roll of 1541; *Misc.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), i, 142. Sir William Norris's joy at the recovery of this part of Blackrod through his mother is expressed in his genealogical account of the family preserved among the Aston Hall D. (now in the British Museum), and printed in *Topographer and Genealogist*, ii, 363-73. Sir William states that he and his cousin Hoghton paid 9s. 6d. each, the other 1s. of socage rent being paid by the Stanleys.

³⁶ Sir William Norris states that he purchased a part of his cousin Hoghton's land, and the whole of Sir Rowland Stanley's portion; *Topog. and Gen.* ii, 372. The Huytons' estate was afterwards acquired.

³⁷ Sir William Norris died in 1568 holding half the manor of Blackrod and half a twentieth part of it of the queen as of her manor of Salford in socage, by

In the 16th century the principal resident family was that of Hyton or Huyton, whose house was called The Hall. They appear to have inherited from a branch of the Norris family,³⁹ and their estate was acquired by Edward Norris of Speke in 1582.³⁰

ARLEY was another ancient estate, held in 1393

a rent of 10s. 6d. for all services; Duchy of Lanc. Inq. xi, no. 22. The manor of Blackrod was included in a settlement made by Sir William Norris in 1613; Pal. of Lanc. Feet of F. bdlc. 81, no. 49.

From deeds in the Aston Hall collection it appears that Sir William Norris sold a large part of his estate in 1608 and later years; the occupiers seem to have purchased their holdings. Edward Norris, late of Speke, 'esquire,' who died in 1627, held a messuage and land in Blackrod of the king; Towneley MS. C, 8, 13 (Chet. Lib.), 914. He was either the younger brother or the eldest son of Sir William, and left a daughter and heir Margaret, twenty years of age.

³⁸ Baines, *Lancs.* (ed. 1836), iii, 107; this lordship probably represents the Hoghton part of the manor. At the same time the chief landowner was Sir Robert Holt Leigh of Hindley Hall, whose estate is now held by Mr. Roger Leigh.

³⁹ Hugh le Norreys about 1283 granted to Robert le Norreys, probably a half-brother, the fourth part of the Croft in Blackrod (to be taken near the boundary of Anderton), with acquittance of mulcture and hopper-free for his corn in the grantor's mills of Croft and Arley. Sir Henry de Lea, then sheriff, was a witness. The charter is endorsed 'For Hyton's lands in Blackrod;' Norris D. (B.M.), no. 1004. Another deed, dated 1277, describes the bounds as beginning at Merestock, following the Blacklache, which fell into the Douglas at that point, to the middle of the wood between Blackrod and Croft; thence to Sidale Clough, where it fell into the Douglas, and so to the starting-point. Common of pasture of Haigh and Blackrod was allowed, together with pannage in the woods of both manors, except the grantor's park of Haigh. A yearly rent of 1d. was to be paid; *ibid.*, no. 1005. Another grant in 1283 by Hugh le Norreys to Emma his sister seems to refer to a part of the same land; the rent was to be a pair of white gloves or 1d.; *ibid.* no. 1003. Robert le Norreys was, as above stated, a defendant in suits of 1278 respecting dower, &c., in Blackrod.

Robert le Norreys, perhaps the same person, in 1322 made a settlement of his estate in Blackrod and Adlington, with remainders in succession to his sons Hugh, Henry, Robert, John, and Roger; *Final Conc.* ii, 48.

In 1348 William son of Richard de Penketh and Amice his wife claimed the latter's dower in Blackrod against Hugh son of Robert le Norreys, and John his son; also against Randle Starkie and Margery his wife, and John the son of Randle; De Banco R. 355, m. 226.

The Huyton family may have been a purely local one, or a branch of that of Huyton near Prescott, and of Billinge. They appear in Blackrod at the end of the 15th century. In 1497 Nicholas Huyton, who was son and heir of William Huyton and his wife Isabel or Eliza-

beth, made a deposition of his estate in Blackrod, Longton, Hutton, Ashton, Golborne, Abram, and Lowton, and in 1504 and 1511 made wills; Hugh his son was dead, leaving a widow Agnes; Thurstan, another son and heir apparent, was of weak mind; Richard and Thomas, other sons, were living in 1511; and there were daughters Clemency, Margery, Ellen, and Alice; Towneley MS. CC, no. 667, 715, 716; Dods. MSS. lxxxvii, fol. 148b; *Dep. Keeper's Rep.* xl, App. 545. In 1511 Nicholas seems to have married Margaret sister of Henry Kighley; or else his son did so.

Nicholas Huyton died in 1527, his son and heir Thurstan being then over forty years of age. The lands in Blackrod were held of the heir of Sir James Harrington by the rent of a pair of white gloves or 1d. yearly; Duchy of Lanc. Inq. p.m. vi, no. 53.

Though Thurstan was of 'faint wit' he was married, and in 1544 his son and heir apparent Nicholas granted a lease of a house in Abram; William, another son, is named in it; Norris D. The younger Nicholas was also short-witted; he had two sons, William and Hugh, and a daughter Katherine, who married Ralph Whitfield, and had a son David. William, the above-named brother of Nicholas, had a son William.

³⁰ It appears that William, the son and heir apparent of Nicholas, was murdered, and that his brother Hugh was pressed to death at Lancaster Castle on account of the crime. On the morning of his execution Hugh Huyton conveyed all his lands to Sir William Norris in trust for his sister Katherine and her husband, though the widow of William Huyton retained possession for a time. Afterwards Edward Norris of Speke acquired the lands from the Whitfields. These transactions occupied many years, from 1568 to 1582, and full particulars are given in the Norris deeds (B.M.); see also fines of 1563 and 1569, by which settlements of the Whitfields' estate were made, and of 1582, by which Edward Norris secured lands in Blackrod, &c.; Pal. of Lanc. Feet of F. bdlc. 25, m. 32; 31, m. 168; 44, m. 83; see also *Ducatus Lanc.* ii, 243; iii, 115; *Lancs. and Ches. Rec.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), ii, 253. Edward Norris sold a messuage, &c., in Blackrod to Arthur Finch in 1582; Pal. of Lanc. Feet of F. bdlc. 44, m. 136.

Nicholas Huyton, the father of William and Hugh, complained in 1562 that Ralph Whitfield and Katherine his wife, the latter as heir of her brothers, had obtained the deeds and entered into possession of Blackrod Hall and the rest of the estate; they alleged a settlement made in 1548; Duchy of Lanc. Plead. lii, H, 5; lv, H, 13. About the same time Katherine widow of William Huyton alleged that Sir William Norris and others had in Oct. 1561 broken into Blackrod Hall, which had been settled on her on her marriage, and obtained possession of certain deeds; *ibid.* xlix, H, 11.

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by William le Walsh.³¹ He was followed by a Standish family.^{31a} In later times a junior branch of the Norrises of Speke were settled in the township.³² Other owners also occur.³³

George Janion of Blackrod forfeited Park Hall in the time of the Commonwealth.³⁴ James Barker and

other 'delinquents' are named.^{34a} Some 'papists' registered estates in 1717.³⁵

The Hospitallers had land in Blackrod in 1292,³⁶ and about 1540 Lord Mounteagle was in possession.³⁷

Lawrence Vaux, warden of Manchester in 1559, was a native of Blackrod.³⁸

³¹ It is possible that this was the estate granted by Hugh le Norreys to his sister Emma, referred to in an earlier note. The mill of 'Erelegh' is mentioned in 1283; Norris D. (B.M.), no. 1004; and Erley occurs as a surname in local charters. Hugh son of Haynon le Walsh has been named in a suit of 1278, cited above. John le Walsh of Arley is named in 1345; De Banco R. 344, m. 162. William le Walsh was a plaintiff in 1374; Ibid. R. 456, m. 598d. William le Walsh died on 22 Sept. 1393, holding a messuage, 50 acres of arable land, &c., called Arley, of William de Bradshagh, lord of the manor of Blackrod, by the rent of 1d. or a pair of gloves; the clear value was 5 marks. Joan, the daughter and heir, was ten years of age. The estate also included a messuage and land in Standish; *Lancs. Inq. p.m.* (Chet. Soc.), i, 49.

^{31a} In 1362 William le Walsh of Arley granted to Robert son of Edmund de Standish all his lands, &c., in Blackrod and Worthington, together with the dower which Ellen his mother held in the same; Standish D. (reprinted from *Local Glean. Lancs. and Ches.*), no. 51*. In the 16th and 17th centuries the Standishes of Standish had lands in Blackrod, held of the heirs of Sir James Harrington (e.g. Duchy of Lanc. Inq. p.m. viii, no. 21; *Lancs. Inq. p.m.* [Rec. Soc.], i, 185); but there was also a family of Standish of Arley, probably descendants of the above-named Robert.

About 1442-5 James Standish of Arley was charged with waylaying certain persons in order to kill them; Oliver his brother and others were implicated; Pal. of Lanc. Plea R. 4, m. 4b; R. 5, m. 16; R. 8, m. 2. The same James Standish occurs also in the Standish D., e.g. no. 131, 138. In 1459-60 he had licence to erect a mill-dam on the Douglas; *ibid.* no. 146, 148. His son Peter was a year or two later divorced from Katherine daughter of John Hawarden; *ibid.* no. 149. A feoffment of lands in Blackrod, &c., was made by Peter Standish in 1465; *ibid.* no. 151. Peter Standish, James, his son and heir, and Constance the wife of James, occur in 1483; *ibid.* no. 169-70. James and Constance occur again in 1513; *ibid.* no. 218, 222; he died in or before 1525; *ibid.* no. 281. Peter Standish of Arley occurs in 1581; Kuerden MSS. iii, W, 31. An Alexander Rigby of Arley appears in 1564; Standish D. no. 317-18; see also *Ducatus Lanc.* (Rec. Com.), iii, 116.

Arley Hall was a century ago owned by J. Chisnall Johnson. At present it is the property of the trustees of the late Colonel Fell and Gidlow Fell his son, having been part of the estate of James Gidlow.

³² In 1540 Clemency Norris, widow, granted to her son Thomas and Anne his wife her house called Park Hall in Blackrod; Norris D. (B.M.). Edward Norris, the son of Thomas and Anne, in 1572 leased to his brother Henry the Mytingreaves in Blackrod; *ibid.* Edward died in or before 1578, and left a son William of Staple Inn, in 1584, and Park Hall was surrendered to Edward Norris of Speke; *ibid.* Alice widow of Henry Norris of Blackrod made a feoffment of

her estate in 1580; Add. MS. 32109, fol. 123b, 124. William Norris of Blackrod, 'esquire,' is named in 1598; and in 1609 George Norris of Blackrod, 'yeoman,' purchased a tenement lately in the occupation of Dorothy widow of James Rigby; Norris D.; see also *Ducatus Lanc.* (Rec. Com.), iii, 35, 98.

The estate of William Norris of Blackrod was confiscated by the Parliament in 1652; Peacock, *Index of Royalists* (Index Soc.), 43. He afterwards desired to compound, and showed that he held lands in Blackrod and Adlington; after his death the inheritance would go to Thomas, infant son of George Abbot of Heapey; *Royalist Comp. Papers* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), iv, 230-1.

³³ Isabel wife of Robert de Worsley and widow of John de Worthington in 1376 claimed dower in an estate in Blackrod held by William de Worthington; De Banco R. 462, m. 235.

Thomas Fleetwood of Norbreck died in 1576, holding lands in Blackrod of the queen as of her manor of East Greenwich—being the chantry estate—and left a son Edward.

Roger Shepherd, who died in 1601, also held lands in Blackrod as of the manor of East Greenwich; he left a son Thurstan, fourteen years of age; *Lancs. Inq. p.m.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), i, 71-3, where his will was printed. The Shepherd family occur a century earlier; *Duchy Plead.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), i, 51-3.

Arthur Holme (Hulme) in 1603 held a messuage and lands in socage of the manor of East Greenwich; his heir was his nephew George, son of James Holme; *Lancs. Inq. p.m.* i, 71. Hugh Whittle, clerk, in 1622 held lands by a similar tenure; *ibid.* iii, 305.

William Fleetwood of Eyton, in Bedford, had in 1574 made a settlement of his estate in Blackrod; Pal. of Lanc. Feet of F. bde. 36, m. 51. Afterwards he appears to have sold it to Peter Nelson of Heskin, coal and coal mines being included; Pal. of Lanc. Plea. R. 272, m. 5d. A further settlement was made in 1591 by Hugh Nelson, Dorothy his wife, John Nelson, James Robinson and Alice his wife; Hugh and John were the sons of Peter Nelson, and had an elder brother William; Pal. of Lanc. Feet of F. bde. 53, m. 52.

Thomas Molyneux of Speke had an estate in Blackrod by grant of the Norrises; see Norris D. and Pal. of Lanc. Feet of F. bde. 22, m. 35.

Edward Holden held a messuage and lands of the king in socage by a rent of 5½d.; he died in 1620, leaving a son Henry, of full age; *Lancs. Inq. p.m.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), ii, 236. Henry died 10 Sept. 1636, leaving a son William, eleven years of age, to succeed him; Towneley MS. C, 8, 13 (Chet. Lib.), fol. 517.

John Crompton, who died in 1629, also held lands of the king; Elisha his son and heir was nineteen years of age; *ibid.* 241.

George Hulme, George Shorrock, and — Longworth, were freeholders in 1600; *Misc.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), i, 249, 250.

³⁴ *Royalist Comp. Papers* iv, 29. It is called 'the manor or seignior of Park Hall in Blackrod.' His estate was confiscated under the third Act of 1652; Peacock, *Index of Royalists*, 43. The estate of Henry Ashton of Blackrod was ordered to be sold under the same Act; *ibid.* 42.

George Janion was born about 1609, being the son of Dr. 'Jennion' and Ellen his wife, daughter and co-heir of George Rogerley of Park Hall, who recorded a pedigree in 1613; *Visit.* (Chet. Soc.), 13. The Norris deeds show that George Rogerley in 1608 purchased an estate in Blackrod which had just been sold by Sir William Norris to Cuthbert Clifton.

John Genyon, gentleman, was a recusant in 1678; *Hist. MSS. Com. Rep.* xiv, App. iv, 109. Ralph Vauce was the purchaser in 1654. From the Visitation of 1664 it appears that the above-named Ellen afterwards married Lawrence Worthington, but had no issue by him; Dugdale, *Visit.* (Chet. Soc.), 342.

^{34a} James Barker of Blackrod, yeoman, compounded for his estate of 3 acres by a fine of £10; his delinquency was that he had gone into the king's quarters and stayed there, but he took the Negative Oath in 1646 and also the National Covenant; *Royalist Comp. Papers*, i, 133.

By a lease of 1596 Edward Norris of Speke granted to James Barker of Blackrod, John his son, and Jane the wife of John, the tenement which James Barker already held; the services included one day ploughing with a team, one day harrowing, one day leading of compost with a team, and six days gleaming in harvest time; Norris D. (B.M.). John Barker became the owner in 1609; *ibid.* Richard Barker at the same time purchased his holding; *ibid.*

George Mort of Blackrod, who had also taken the oaths, was allowed to compound for a fine of £46; *Royalist Comp. Papers*, iv, 195; Dugdale, *Visit.* 211.

Adam Mort of Tyldesley and Thomas his son in 1609 purchased from Sir William Norris a tenement lately held by George Hulme, deceased, and Katharine Hulme; Norris D. (B.M.).

³⁵ They were Elizabeth widow of William Brown; Ellen widow of John Shepherd; and James Makinson; Estcourt and Payne, *Cath. Nonjurors*, 106, 152-3.

Thomas Gillibrand of Chorley was in 1734 found to have an estate in Blackrod; Piccoppe MSS. (Chet. Lib.), iii, fol. 252 (from Roll 5 of Geo. II, at Preston).

³⁶ *Plac. de Quo Warr.* (Rec. Com.), 375. ³⁷ Kuerden MSS. v, fol. 84; the rent was 12d.

³⁸ See the account of Manchester Church. There are many references to the family in the Norris D. (B.M.); the name is spelt in a great variety of ways, e.g. Vaus, Vauce, Wawse, &c. In 1605 Sir William Norris sold to Edward Vause of Blackrod the tenement lately held by Alexander, the father of Edward, with the usual moss-room, quarries, and delphs of coal and stone, &c.; the Red Moss is mentioned. Four years later Sir William sold to John Vose son of Ralph the tenement in Blackrod he then held.

Robert Leigh and Sir Richard Clayton were the chief contributors to the Land Tax in 1799.³⁹

Dame Mabel de Bradshagh in 1338 *CHURCH* gave an endowment for a chantry priest in the chapel of *ST. CATHERINE*, then newly-built. The chaplain was to say divine service daily, making special mention of the founder at mass. The lord of Blackrod was to have the nomination.⁴⁰ The names of several of the cantarists are known.⁴¹ At the suppression in 1548 the foundation was ascribed to James Harrington, and the priest, Ralph Forster, was stated to be celebrating according to his duty; his income, derived from lands in Blackrod, was £4 13s. 6d.⁴² The chapel perhaps remained in use after the loss of its endowment, for the inventory of 1552 shows that it was fully, though coarsely, furnished.⁴³ Its fate after the accession of Elizabeth is unknown,⁴⁴ but £4 appears to have been allowed by the duchy to the minister, representing the chantry endowment.⁴⁵ By 1706 the stipend had increased to £21.⁴⁶ Sixty years later the building was enlarged, and galleries have been added since.⁴⁷ A separate ecclesiastical district was assigned in 1858.⁴⁸ The income is now stated to be £718, and the vicar of Bolton presents the incumbents, who are styled vicars.⁴⁹ The following is a list of them:—

- oc. 1604 Robert Haslam⁵⁰
oc. 1619 Richard Barker⁵¹
1646 Gerard Brown, B.A.⁵² (Brasenose College, Oxford)

³⁹ Returns at Preston; together they paid over a quarter of the tax.

⁴⁰ Lich. Epis. Reg. iii, fol. 52. The licence of the prebendary of Bolton had been obtained. The endowment consisted of two messuages, 62 acres of land, 8 acres of meadow, and 10 acres of wood in Blackrod, with appurtenances, including turbary. The chaplain was to have charge of the chalices, books, &c., and was to pay to the parish church of Bolton all great tithes, &c., according to custom. Should the chantry fall vacant after Easter and before the collection of autumn fruits, the new chaplain should receive the moiety of such fruits, together with four oxen and two horses and a plough.

The royal licence to alienate in mortmain was granted in 1335; *Cal. Pat.* 1334-8, p. 122.

⁴¹ Henry de Wakefield, 1349; Raines, *Chantryes* (Chet. Soc.), i, 128. On his resignation in 1376 John le Archer was admitted; Lich. Epis. Reg. iv, fol. 88. In 1499 Hugh Holme was admitted in place of James Culcheth, deceased; *ibid.* xiii, fol. 232. Hugh Holme was there in 1535; *Valor Eccl.* (Rec. Com.), v, 226.

The patrons were the Bradshaws and Harringtons. On the division of the estates the chapel, as already stated, became part of the Hoghton share. In Aug. 1542 Sir Richard Hoghton claimed to present to the 'free chapel of Blackrod' (Pal. of Lanc. Writs Proton. 34 Hen. VIII), but it appears that Sir Alexander Radcliffe and others had presented in the preceding June, George Robinson being then instituted on the death of Hugh Holme; Raines, *Chantryes*, loc. cit. (from Chester Consistory Records). Sir Richard's claim appears to have been justified, for in Oct. 1543 his nominee was instituted—Ralph Forster; *ibid.*

⁴² *Ibid.* 125-9. The chapel is described as 'standing upon the King's Street between Lancaster and London,' and 5 miles from Bolton Church.

The chantry lands were in 1553 sold to Edward Spany of Tunstall in Norfolk, and he at once sold to Thomas Fleetwood, of whose property an account has been given above; Pat. 7 Edw. VI, pt. xi; deed recited in Pal. of Lanc. Plea R. 272, m. 6. The 'Chantry Fields' were in 1882 in the possession of the Marquess de Rothwell; Hampson, *Blackrod*, 35.

⁴³ *Cb. Gds.* (Chet. Soc.), 31, where it is treated as if a separate parish church; three small bells and a hand-bell were the town's property. The ornaments were sold for 8s. 4d.; Raines, *Chantryes*, ii, 276; for two of the bells; *ibid.* 274.

⁴⁴ No curate is mentioned in the Visitation list of 1563; the next curate, 'no preacher,' known occurs about 1590; S.P. Dom. Eliz. xxxi, no. 47. No name is given. In 1592 the churchwardens had not exhibited any presentments; *Lancs. and Ches. Antiq. Soc.* xiii, 57.

⁴⁵ *Commonwealth Cb. Surv.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), 33. The commissioners recommended that Blackrod should be made a parish church. Half the tithes were in 1648 ordered to be paid to the minister; *Plund. Mins. Accts.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), i, 62. Nothing was decided as to the separation of Blackrod from Bolton; *ibid.* ii, 226.

⁴⁶ Gastrell, *Notitia Cestr.* (Chet. Soc.), ii, 15-17. The Duchy rent is given as £4 4s. 1½d., and £16 6s. 6d. was the interest of the chapel stock. There was one warden.

⁴⁷ Raines, loc. cit. (in notes).

⁴⁸ *Lond. Gaz.* 2 Aug. 1858.

⁴⁹ *Manch. Dioc. Dir.*

⁵⁰ Visitation List at Chester Dioc. Reg.

- 1654 Thomas Isherwood⁵⁸
1668 — Bolton⁵⁴
1682 Hiel (?) Edmondson⁵⁵
oc. 1696 — Stones
c. 1701 Christopher Tyrer, B.A.⁵⁶ (University College, Oxford)
— Peter Shaw
1722 Nathan Pierpoint
1727 James Bankes, B.A.⁵⁷
1774 Thomas Shaw
1777 Joseph Bowes, B.A. (St. John's College, Cambridge)
1788 Stephen Ellis
1800 William Marsden, B.D.⁵⁸ (Brasenose College, Oxford)
1837 Charles Johnson Snape, B.A.⁵⁹ (Queens' College, Cambridge)
1846 Peter Walsh Browne, M.A.
1861 Francis Richard Swallow
1877 Ralph Calvert Williams Croft, B.A.⁶⁰ (Trinity College, Dublin)
1900 George Worsley Coleman, M.A.⁶¹ (Jesus College, Cambridge)

A grammar school was founded in 1568 by the trustees of John Holme, and is now joined with the slightly earlier one founded at Rivington.⁶²

There is a Wesleyan Methodist chapel.

Formerly there was a meeting of the Society of Friends in Blackrod.⁶³

⁵¹ *Ibid.* No curate's name occurs in the clerical subsidy lists of the time.

⁵² He was a Royalist, but after being ejected from Mottram near Stockport (Earwaker, *East Ches.* ii, 128-30), appears to have conformed to the Presbyterian discipline, and was in charge of Blackrod from the end of 1646 to 1651, when he moved to Cockerham and afterwards to Burton in Kendal, conforming in 1662; *Bury Classis* (Chet. Soc.), 18, &c., 219-20. In 1650 he was described as 'a painful, godly, and orthodox minister, and a man of pious life and conversation'; *Commonwealth Ch. Surv.* 34.

⁵³ William Hilton seems to have intruded himself during the vacancy; *Bury Classis*, i, 127.

Thomas Isherwood (Christ's Coll. Camb.) was ordained to Blackrod in 1654; *ibid.* 136, &c. He was vicar of Eccles 1671-8.

⁵⁴ Note by Mr. Earwaker. At the visitation in 1671 it was presented that there were fourteen Papists, and that the Rigbys were Quakers.

⁵⁵ *Ibid.* The curacy appears to have been vacant in 1689 and 1691.

⁵⁶ The Church P. at Chester Dioc. Reg. are available from this point.

⁵⁷ One of this name was B.A. 1727. Brasenose Col. Oxf.; Foster, *Alumni*.

⁵⁸ Became vicar of Eccles.

⁵⁹ From this time the curates and vicars are stated to have been presented by the vicars of Bolton; see Hampson, *Blackrod*, 57.

⁶⁰ Previously incumbent of Walmsley.

⁶¹ Previously vicar of Great Marsden, 1882, and of St. Augustine's, Bolton, 1893.

⁶² Gastrell, *Notitia*, ii, 16; *End. Char. Rep. for Bolton*, 1904.

⁶³ It was addressed by Roger Haydock in 1674.

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CORRIGENDA

Vol. III, page 130, note 12, and 130*b*, line 3, for 'Aspinall' read 'Aspinwell'; note 17, for 'appears to have been suggested by his estate here' read 'relates to the Dingle in Toxteth Park (p. 41, n. 3)'

- " " " 140*b*, line 47, for 'to Runcorn' read 'to Weston in Runcorn'
- " " " 143, note 10, line 44, for 'lances' read 'platters'
- " " " 146, note 12, for '. . . Compton' read 'Thomas Compton'
- " " " 149*b*, line 5, " 'Lostock' read 'Birchley'
- " " " 156*a*, line 8, for 'Oxford' read 'Edinburgh'
- " " " 162*n*, for 'Dunderdale' read 'Dunnerdale'
- " " " 218, note 1, for '1772' read '1722'
- " " " 220, from note 20 delete 'He was the originator of *Holden's Tide Tables*'
- " " " 225, note 14, delete from 'and seems'
- " " " 229, note 6, for 'vicar of Birmingham' read 'rector'
- " " " 233*b*, line 16, for 'by his son Roger' read 'by his son Barnaby (d. 1695), whose son (d. 1703) and grandson (d. 1709) also inherited. At this latter date Roger, second son of Robert, succeeded, having lived at the hall from 1695'
- " " " 233*b*, line 23, after 'Roger Hesketh being one,' add 'but it is not certain that Roger Hesketh of North Meols is referred to'
- " " " 253, note 9, for 'Cockayne' read 'Cokayne'
- " " " 255*b*, lines 19 and 20. The death of Mr. Edward James Stanley has occurred since (September 1907)
- " " " 268, note 13, for 'demised to James Anderton of Clayton le Woods, the hall' read 'demised to James son and heir of James Anderton of Clayton le Woods and William Anderton of Euxton the hall'
- " " " 269, note 2, " 'Cavalier's Note-book 261' read '251'
- " " " " line 12, col. 2, for 'He resumed' read 'His son Thomas resumed'
- " " " 278, note 5, line 3, for 'Bickerstath' read 'Atherton'
- " " " map facing page 341, for 'Rainsford' read 'Rainford'
- " " " page 342*b*, line 12, for 'William Halsnead' read 'Daniel Willis of Halsnead'
- " " " 354, note 12, for 'there is' read 'there was'
- " " " 359*a*, line 2, after 'heir' add 'or co-heir'
- " " " 372, add to note 2: 'Alan de Windle and Agnes his wife occur in 1202; *Final Conc.* i, 13, 21'
- " " " 375, note 7, for 'Edward Moxon' read 'George Moxon'; after 'in 1628' add 'to about 1637'
- " " " 385, note 16, for 'Mr. Pyke' read 'Thomas Pyke'
- " " " 395, note 11, delete paragraph 2; Captain John Smith was a Lincolnshire man
- " " " 406, add to note 4: 'For a "Mr. Bold of Lancashire" in 1586 see Morris, *Troubles of our Cath. Forefathers* (ser. 2), 138'
- " " " 418, line 29, add to list of rectors 'c. 1430, William Booth'
- " " " 432*b*, line 5, for 'who' read 'whose youngest son Lawrence'
- " " " " line 3 from end, for 'grandson' read 'nephew'
- " " " 443*a*, line 33, for 'supposed daughter' read 'great-granddaughter.' The proof is in Huntroyde D. T6*a*, which deed gives the descent of Cleworth thus: John de Waverton (or Warton—s. William—s. Thomas, who married Margaret Chisenhale—s. William—da. Katherine (wife of Nicholas de Bradshagh)—aunt Joan (da. of Thomas)—s. Thomas Norris.
- " " " 449, note 8, for 'Probably son of John Mawdesley' read 'Second son of George Mawdesley'

Vol. IV, page 52, line 49, for 'Mr. William Emerton' read 'Mr. William Emerson'

- " " " 87*a*, Roger Anderton was not a Jesuit, but a secular priest; see Kirk, *Biog. of Eng. Cath.* 3, 4
- " " " 90, line 11, for 'Sir Roger Holt Leigh' read 'Sir Robert'
- " " " 178*a*, line 5, " 'in Mill' read 'Mill in'
- " " " 186*a*, line 32, " 'John Allen' read 'Joseph Allen'
- " " " 388, note 106, line 1, for 'c. 1480' read 'temp. Eliz.'
- " " " " " " " 8, " 'Undskoles' read 'Urdeskoles'

Vol. V, page 79, note 50, for 'Sir Ambrose Carr' read 'Sir Ambrose Cave'

- " " " 297, note 31, " 'Horrockford' read 'Horrocksford'

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